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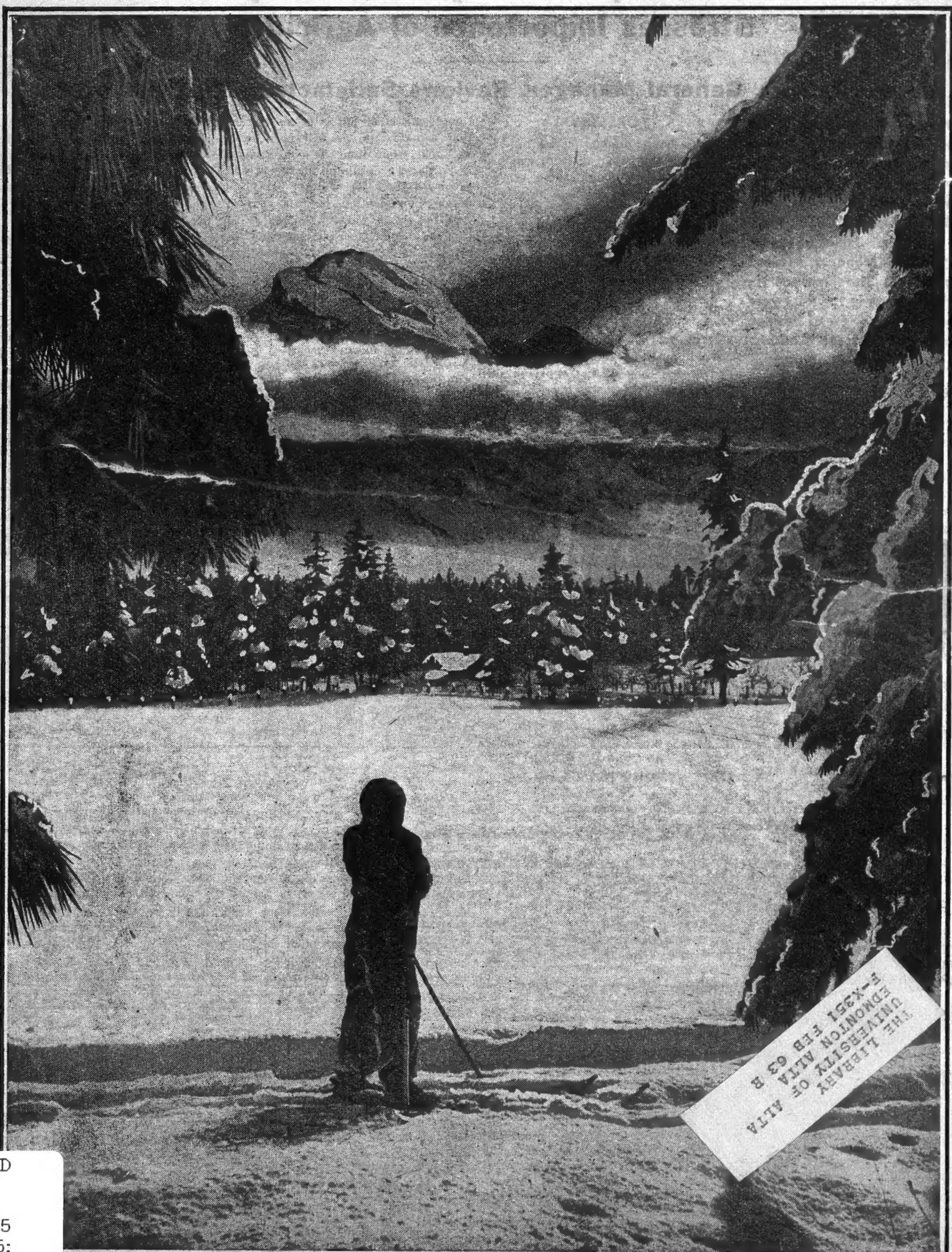
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# Farm and Ranch Review

VOLUME XLV  
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# Canada Makes Progress In 1948

**A. E. Arscott, President, The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Says Production Facilities Improved Beyond Most Optimistic Estimates Stresses Importance of Agriculture**

## James Stewart, General Manager, Reviews Satisfactory Progress of Bank

**At the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held in the Head Office of the Bank in the City of Toronto, December 14th, Mr. Allan E. Arscott, C.B.E., President, and Mr. James Stewart, C.B.E., General Manager, presented the Annual Statement of the Bank's operations in the past year, together with a review of business conditions. Mr. Arscott's address to the meeting follows, in part:**

When we consider the size of Canada we can say that the country as a unit is in a relatively prosperous condition.

A year ago those engaged in agriculture faced difficulties, largely the result of poor crops over most of the farm and ranch areas. The crops this year, on the contrary, have been for the most part of high yield, exceptions being in limited areas in the West and the orchards of Nova Scotia and in parts of the Fraser Valley of British Columbia. The improved crop situation is best indicated by the fact that grain yields in 1948 are about two hundred million bushels greater than in the preceding year, the increase being divided between the Prairie Provinces and Eastern and Central Canada. This should mean that there will be larger food supplies in this country as more grain is converted into dairy, poultry and meat products and that our exportable surpluses can be greater.

In the coming months it may be necessary for us to reconsider our position in world wheat markets. The world wheat agreements were not ratified within the designated time limits, so that Canada, if new agreements are not made, is left in the main to her own resources to search for markets where the purchasers have the ability to provide satisfactory payment. There have been hopeful signs in recent weeks that proposals again will be placed before the governments concerned. Out of the discussions there may emerge a programme for orderly international marketing and distribution of food supplies.

Industrial production continues to increase although the rate of increase in some industries has been more or less irregular during the past year. In part this is due to the fact that the flow of materials from the United States had to be curtailed to conform more closely to our reserves of American dollars, and in part because of shortages in some materials, both in Canada and elsewhere.

### FORESTRY

In forestry, production of lumber, wood pulp and paper again established new records, although some of the Eastern lumbering districts have been less active than for some years past. Over all, Canada will have cut in 1948 about five thousand million feet board measure of lumber and made over seven million tons of pulp and paper. The output of newsprint this year is four times greater than that of any other country and accounts for over half the world's supply of this essential commodity. Impressive as these figures are they do not represent all the progress in forestry operations because of continuing technical changes designed to increase the supply of wood materials of all kinds, notably pulp, and also to improve the quality of forest products.

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

A noticeable important change in direction of our export trade centered in the American market which took more Canadian goods and materials of all major classifications than in 1947. The value of such exports exceeded \$1,200 million, close to the war-time peak when the United States was importing military supplies in large quantities. When all Canadian exports are taken into account the total amount is above that of the preceding year, over \$2,700 million in value, but perhaps somewhat smaller in volume.

With respect to our trade with other countries, our exports to the British group declined by more than one hundred million dollars from 1947, as the result of smaller shipments to the United Kingdom, and substantial reductions in those to other markets in this group, particularly Australasia. There was also a marked falling-off in exports to Continental Europe.

European countries are now obtaining goods from Canada through allocations made under the European Recovery Programme whereby purchases are permitted to be made in Canada and payment arranged for in U.S. dollars. Also having a bearing on Canada's trade, it has already been indicated that the balance remaining of the United Kingdom credit from Canada, namely, \$235 millions, is likely to be "unfrozen" over the following months. The above arrangements should continue to stimulate temporarily at least the overseas demand for Canadian products.

### DEFENCE PROGRAMME

With regard to defence measures now being considered and those in hand, the query arises as to what the effects will mean in terms of our economic activity. At the moment our posi-

tion is not clear but it seems obvious that some resources will need to be withheld from domestic consumption. A military programme at the present is very different from other periods of defence preparation in this country. At other times, war for Canada, in the earlier stages at least, took up the slack in our economy and encouraged the expansion of production. To-day with high employment, preparedness comes as a competitor not as a supplement to the productive machine and this fact will require consideration in making plans for next year.

It is evident that to-day we have conditions in our economy which vary greatly from those that we have had in the past. In effect we are endeavoring to travel along the paths of peace, reconstruction and defence preparation simultaneously, each of which would in itself have a direct bearing on industrial decisions.

Domestically our economy has never been so flourishing. This is not to say an ideal situation has been achieved but it can be stated that our facilities for production have improved to an extent beyond even the most optimistic estimates of the last two years.

There have been incidents in the international sphere which have given, and are still giving cause for considerable concern. Statesmen not only from this continent but from abroad who have been close to international problems have warned us repeatedly of disturbances that might affect various European countries and which in turn could involve all the countries of the civilized world. We can only hope that the deliberations and patient efforts of those charged with the task of working out a peaceful solution will be successful in convincing potentially belligerent nations of the wisdom of foregoing any actions which might lead to an actual war. The cloud, however, is hanging over us and is affecting our thoughts no matter how prosperous the country appears to be in a general way. It would seem, therefore, that the pattern of the year ahead is likely to be determined more by international than by purely domestic economic considerations.

### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

The assets of the Bank have now reached a figure in excess of \$1,500 million, an increase for the year of \$102 million. In referring to the progress made in this respect during the year, mention might be made that an apparent misunderstanding in some quarters exists that such an expansion in the Bank's business reflects a larger proprietary interest of the shareholders; in other words, that the assets

generally belong to the shareholders. This, of course, is incorrect, since the assets of the Bank, apart from the shareholders' equity, are the offsetting counterpart of the Bank's liabilities, which are represented largely by the deposits of its customers.

### DEPOSITS

Aggregate deposits during the year increased by \$93 million, of which \$9 million was in non-interest bearing accounts, \$50 million in Savings, and \$34 million in Dominion Government Balances, the latter reflecting to some extent the proceeds of the sale of Dominion of Canada Savings Bonds. The non-interest bearing accounts, made up mostly of business accounts, fluctuate within quite a wide range. The Savings Accounts for the most part are moneys belonging to individuals. This continued evidence of thrift on the part of the public must be viewed with satisfaction as the accounts are well spread among all classes and occupations. Our deposit customers now number in excess of one million five hundred thousand, which figure represents a gratifying increase over last year.

### LOANS

Our Current Loans in Canada show an increase of \$30 million which is indicative of the active part this Bank is taking in the business of the country. While loans continue to show an upward trend, the rate of increase which was evident last year has slowed down. The figures this year signify a combination of two factors — first, the continuation of the increased tempo of business compared to war and pre-war days and, second, the higher level of prices. There has been evidence in recent months that the rate of increase in prices is slowing down and it is to be hoped that the levelling-off point is near at hand. The continuing upward trend of business has inherent in it some elements of uncertainty. Increased production is essential to the well-being of the country, particularly in those lines where supply has not yet caught up with demand. However, there seems to be a tendency by some to reach out for volume beyond the point where existing capital can reasonably support financial requirements. Expansion of this kind should be taken care of by obtaining additional capital, and working capital positions should be analyzed with this in mind.

In these confused times one could not predict in anything but general terms what the future holds. However, with the resources with which this country is blessed, we can, if we handle our affairs with prudence now, look to the future with confidence.

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Here is the new Canadian National Railways trophy for the World's Wheat Championship which was won by S. J. Allsop of Red Deer at the Royal Winter Fair. R. C. Vaughan, president of the C.N.R., is shown here, right, presenting the trophy to J. A. Northey, president of the Royal Winter Fair.

## 200 Farmers, Businessmen Honor New Wheat Champion

RED DEER: — Approximately 200 farmers and businessmen of central Alberta honored J. S. Allsop, new world wheat champion, at a banquet here. The affair was held jointly with the Red Deer Board of Trade's annual Farmers' Night.

Besides Mr. Allsop the Board of Trade honored the winners of its 1948 "Save the Soil" campaign. Mayor C. R. Bunn opened the program by welcoming the guests. A. M. Lees, president of the Board of Trade, read congratulatory telegrams which had been sent to Mr. Allsop. Vic Bjorkel, field superintendent for Red Deer municipality, introduced several of the 16 winners from central Alberta who brought home honors from the Toronto fair.

John Richards, president of the Red Deer Agricultural Society, spoke briefly of the vital part which wheat played in the nation's economy. Then he presented Mr. Allsop with a silver service, on behalf of the society. Mr. Lees, on behalf of the Red Deer board of trade presented him with a life membership in the organization and travelling bags. L. Hickey, on behalf of the C.N.R., presented Mr. Allsop with a cheque from his organization. Lew Hutchinson, of the Alberta Wheat Pool, gave him a travelling bag and leather writing case.

Replying to the presentations Mr. Allsop said he had always been interested in prize-winning wheat growing, especially since 1926 when he was a member of a junior farm club. He stated that on hearing the news that he had again taken the top honors he was pleased for the boost which it would give the community of Red Deer.

He remarked that while at Toronto he had already been presented with the trophy and a silver tray, from the

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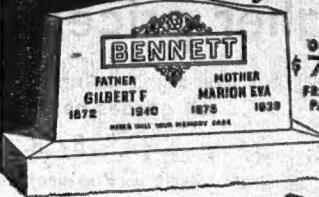
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—From a 1948 survey.

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# What's ahead for live stock, Higher prices or lower prices?

All the signs point to a drastic shortage of beef of all grades next spring and early summer.

By R. J. DINNING,  
President of Burns & Co. Ltd.

FROM the live stock figures of the past two months it has now been decreased. Judging from the experience apparent that large numbers of cattle have been thrown on the market. In a few of all grades during the months of April, May and June, 1949, a shortage of beef is anticipated. In a few scattered areas this may be due to a shortage of fodder, but, generally probably more pronounced than in speaking, there is an abundance of years past.

Obviously, therefore, the high feed. This situation can be remedied, or prices prevailing must be the major cause for the abnormal shipments of unfinished stock. It may be well to point out that, from the viewpoint of both producer and consumer, the irregular flow of cattle to market is one of the major factors in fluctuating meat and live stock prices in our country. In the fall cattle fattened on grass come to a difficult market in large numbers and during the winter months the numbers decrease as the grain finished animals are shipped. This year indications are ably, felt excellent prices were more

at least modified, if the producers can be persuaded to withhold their stock until fully finished for market and in

the early summer market. In theory this seems to be the practical method of operation but, unfortunately, it is

strong and even half finished animals

from the farms, ranches and feed lots

many farmers and ranchers, justifi-

acceptable now than unknown prices. ties would only accommodate a very next winter and spring. Then many small percentage of the requirements. Frozen beef generally sells from three to five cents per pound below fresh beef. The cold-storage beef must carry the additional burden of storage, insurance and interest charges, thus adding several cents to the final cost before it reaches the consumer.

Let us take a hypothetical case based on conditions when half-finished animals were being marketed this fall:

1 steer (feeder quality) 850 lbs.	at 16c per lb. -----	\$136.00
Feed, 180 days at 39c per day --	70.20	
		\$206.20

Same steer plus gain 1½ lbs.	per day for 180 days (270	
lbs.) 1,120 lbs. at 24c -----	268.80	
Feeding profit, not including		
labor costs or possible acci-		
dent -----	\$ 62.60	

Feed costs are based on 15 lbs. grain and five pounds of roughage per day.

The question is frequently asked why do not the packing houses buy during the surplus supply period and use cold-storage facilities to carry the product through to meet the demand when supply is short.

There are many reasons why this is not practical.

In the first place cold-storage facil-

Possibly no impressive improvement is in the offing until our economic situation returns to a basis where the successful livestock producer will scrutinize the Canadian picture and adjust himself to a program that will produce a maximum return in a competitive market.

The opening of the United States market has materially altered the local position particularly from the viewpoint of our consumers. Nevertheless, our cattle producers with a reasonably bright future before them, cannot afford to create the impression south of the line that we are a low-quality producing nation. All in all we must finish our cattle for market and play fair with our own consumers.

In this great producing country of ours it would be ludicrous and even tragic if, in the future and in the final analysis, our Canadian consumers would be forced to turn to the United States for a portion of their high-quality meats.

## In Most Temperature Arguments Everybody Is Usually Right

By A. L. RYAN

BEEN having trouble with your neighbor who disputes the accuracy of your thermometer? Stick by your guns, for the chances are you are just as right as he is.

Arguing about the temperature is a most popular winter sport on the prairies. Sometimes these arguments generate considerable heat. One man has a thermometer that registers 42 below and he mentions the fact when he goes into town. But two other farmers challenge the figure. One reports only 35 below and the other 37 below. Let that happen two or three times and the first man will begin to lose faith in his thermometer. But let him buy another one and the chances are that he will still be reporting lower temperatures than his friends.

The explanation is simple enough. He just happens to be living in a colder pocket than the others. Temperature can vary widely in a very short distance. It may be 40 below on the north side of the house, only 30 below on the south side and 35 below out by the barn. Winter temperature



isn't like a blanket that covers the countryside uniformly. The cold air masses that make the temperature are constantly on the move. If they could be seen they would resemble fog patches, slowly eddying, twisting, turning over the contours of the land.

Whatever the temperature happens to be at the moment represents something like a current battle line in the constant interplay of the contradictory forces that make climate.

The earth is absorbing heat from the

sun on one hand and giving off heat on the other. For example plowed ground will not only absorb more heat than well-covered pasture, but it will lose more heat when the weather turns cold. That means that the atmosphere around ground that is losing heat will be warmer than it is where heat is not being lost at such a rapid rate.

Similarly, sandy soil is much more sensitive to heat absorption and loss than clay or loam. The desert is the extreme example. It absorbs heat so rapidly from the sun's rays during the day that it becomes burning hot. But when the sun sets it loses its heat so rapidly that within a few hours it is almost ice cold.

From time immemorial, poets have sung of the coolness of the grass. It is cool because it insulates the soil from the sun's rays and prevents heat being absorbed. In the evening, when the declining temperature of the air reduces its ability to hold moisture, the moisture gathers on the grass as dew.

Not only do winter temperatures vary widely from place to place at ground level, they show very marked variations vertically. The cold atmosphere that sends our thermometers dropping may extend only a few hundred feet above the earth's surface.

There may be a layer of warmer air, moving in the opposite direction of equal depth. Above it will be another layer of cold air. Aviators have found variations as wide as 50 degrees in temperatures above the earth.

One theory about cold weather can be summed up like this: The longer it stays, the colder it gets. A cold fall tends to be followed by a cold winter. A January that is steadily cold is likely to be followed by a colder than usual February.

In the spring almost everybody uses the term "the frost is coming out of the ground." It would be more accurate to say that "the frost is going into the ground." During the winter on the prairie, the frost may penetrate the earth to a distance of two to six feet, depending on the snow cover. When the weather warms up in the spring the penetration often goes deep enough to burst water mains in the cities. Winnipeg, for example, has an annual outbreak of broken mains in the spring, caused by deeper penetration of the frost after the surface of the earth has become warmed.

What we see as frost coming out of the ground is actually a steady increase in the depth of the surface absorption of heat from the sun and air. Eventually, the frost layer under the ground is taken care of by the warm air that pushes its way up slowly from beneath the soil. A point is reached, in the downward penetration of cold air, where rising warm air prevents further freezing. The sub-surface warm air, aided by the penetration of the surface by warmth from the sun's rays, at last launches a counter offensive and destroys the frost in the soil.

That process will not take place, however, until weeks after most farmers assume that the frost has come out of the ground.

Only 10 per cent of the songs written by Irving Berlin, generally considered to be the most successful of America's popular song writers, have been hits.

\* \* \*

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# Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

## Is This Where We Came In: A Canadian Food Surplus In a Hungry World?

THE statement made by Mr. Gardiner on the British food contracts heavily underscores a fundamental fact that must not be overlooked by the farmers of Western Canada. That fact is:

*The curtailment on food purchases in Canada has been caused by the British shortage of Canadian dollars.*

The implications of this fact are so varied, and important, that we propose to examine some of them at length. First and foremost is the question that must arise in the minds of our producers, can the Canadian government afford to allow a currency shortage to become an insurmountable obstacle to the flow of Canadian food to Britain? Have the best minds in the Canadian Government and the British Government learned nothing in the last 18 years? Are we again heading into a period of starvation in a world of plenty?

Currency shortages were one of the basic causes of the drying up of our markets 18 years ago. In those days, we often protested against the rampaging protectionism of Europe. We regarded it as insane for France and Germany and Belgium to pay their farmers upwards of \$3.00 a bushel to grow wheat we were prepared to supply for half that price.

Fear of war and fear of revolution were contributing factors in their decisions to subsidize wheat growing at home. But an even more pressing reason was stark inability to find dollars with which to buy all the goods required.

War debts, interest on war debts, commercial debts, and foreign held public debts all helped drain the gold from Europe into the United States. Desperate measures were undertaken to halt this flow. Everywhere emphasis was put on the production of food. Prohibitive duties were one instrument. Domestic laws requiring a high proportion of local wheat to be used in flour was another. The use of substitutes was still another. And unsold wheat piled up on this continent and agriculture was ruined.

Is this the direction in which we are heading today? During the war we devised methods of getting around currency shortages. If we had not we would not have won the war. Surely some method can be found in time of peace. Surely it makes more sense, if this is all that can be done, for the Canadian government to buy all the food that can be produced and get it onto the tables of the people who are hungry.

That is one point.

The fact that the British are cutting down purchases because they simply cannot finance them is a crushing answer to the critics of the Wheat agreements. The argument, repeated ad infinitum until our ears have ached, went like this: They had to have the wheat. If we hadn't sold it under the contracts they would have been forced to pay the world price (what-

ever that was)! We should have forced them to pay whatever the traffic would bear. And they would have had to buy it.

### The British Alternative

They would have done nothing of the kind. They would have been forced, by sheer lack of dollars, to have taken drastic action to curtail wheat imports and consumption. They would have taken desperate measures to get wheat from Sterling areas. They probably would have instituted bread rationing, have heavily subsidized their own farmers to grow wheat, have done everything possible to develop substitutes.

Now the last thing the producers of Western Canada ever want is to have bread rationed anywhere in the world. Rationing changes eating habits. People who get out of the habit of eating bread, or anything else, lose their taste for it. They turn to something else and never go back. Millions of people in Europe, and many in Canada, eat rye bread in preference to wheat bread. Given a choice and they choose rye and reject wheat.

Aside altogether from the price argument, the British contracts did this: They maintained bread eating as a habit, probably in fact increased bread eating by making it available when other foods were scarce. Nothing is more important to western producers than that fact.

Perhaps the price was too low. Perhaps, as it is argued now, the full cost of this contribution should not have been charged to the producers. Certainly there was little justification for maintaining the Canadian ceiling price at its ridiculous level. Perhaps it would have been better, though the political risks were tremendous, for the Canadian government to have bought the wheat at a high price and sold it at a special low price to the British.

The last argument is now the favorite theme of the *Winnipeg Free Press* which speaks for the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. But this was the argument of neither the *Free Press* nor the Grain Exchange when the contracts were negotiated. The *Free Press* then was manning the price control barricades. It was resolutely opposed to any increase in prices for the producers. It said the wheat contract was a bad bargain, that the British should be charged the highest price that could be exacted. The difference between what could be gouged from the British, and the Canadian ceiling price, could go into a pool and be distributed to the producers when prices went down.

### Here Is the Record

What must impress our readers today is the transcendental gall of the Grain Exchange and the *Free Press* in the position now taken. Do they think the memories of western producers are so short that they cannot remember the 1930's? Let's go back over the record.

Remember the endlessly repeated criticisms by the Grain Exchange of the

Wheat Pools? The pools were blamed from 1928 onward for a decline in British purchases because the idea got abroad that they, the Pools, were out to force higher prices for wheat. As late as 1937, Grain Exchange spokesmen were still making this charge before the Turgeon commission.

Long before that, however, they had picked out another target for abuse. That was the late John I. McFarland. Mr. McFarland had been appointed by the Bennett Government to liquidate the Canadian wheat surplus. He tried to do it in an orderly fashion, to enable the producers to get at least their cost of production from current crops. Mr. McFarland was damned from one end of Canada to the other because he did not liquidate the Canadian crop at firesale prices.

Again the cry was the same. He was alienating the traditional Canadian customers, forcing them to go elsewhere for wheat, ruining Canada's market.

Grain Exchange spokesmen made their position abundantly clear before the Parliamentary committee on the Wheat Board act in 1935. Despite the fact that bumper crops were succeeded by crop failures, and the world and Canadian carryover reduced, wheat was still selling at 80 cents a bushel in store Fort William. But that was too high to please the Grain Exchange. It wanted the carryover dumped for what it would bring. The late James A. Richardson, when asked by Premier Bennett what it cost to produce a bushel of wheat on the prairies, replied that a farmer had told him he could get by at 40 cents a bushel on the farm.

One of the first acts of the new Liberal Government was to fire Mr. McFarland. He was replaced by the Murray board which promptly did what the Grain Exchange wanted, sold off the Canadian carryover for what it would bring. And it did it when the new crop was being marketed.

When, in December, 1935, the Argentine advanced its price overnight 20 cents a bushel, two things happened. The Grain Exchange immediately imposed a three-cent daily limit on fluctuation to prevent the Canadian price from rising. And the new Wheat Board sold wheat to those who had been caught selling the market short, thus enabling them to avoid financial disaster. But from that day to this, there is no record anywhere of a single calculation of a Winnipeg mathematician to show the losses inflicted on Western farmers by the Murray Wheat Board-Grain Exchange policies.

The circle is now complete. And mark this well: The people who condemned the pools for trying to get a better price for wheat; who tried to destroy John I. McFarland because he sought to get a price that would enable farmers to break even; these are the people who now hold up their hands in horror because we did not hold a gun to the heads of our customers and allies who had been broken by war.

(Continued on Page 6)

# Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

(Editorials Continued)

And they are the people who have succeeded in cultivating a blindness toward the dominant fact of economic life in the world today — the continuing currency crisis. They treat the dollar shortage as if it did not exist. Until the currency problem is solved there will be recurrent disruptions for agriculture. It is the available supply of dollars that dictates the size of British purchases in Canada, of wheat and everything else.

Western farm families will understand

the problem very well. They go to town with \$100 set aside for winter clothing. If that \$100 will not buy the clothing they need they are forced to settle for the clothing the \$100 will buy. Double the price on the clothing, and unless they are prepared to buy less of something else, they will be forced by sheer necessity to get along with half as much.

That is the problem of the world today. It is coming to rest slowly but surely on the doorstep of the producers of the West.

★

## Forget the Plebiscite And Provide the Power

THE final returns of the election in Alberta are no comfort to the people who thought that rural electrification of Alberta could be filed and forgotten. The first tabulation showed that public ownership and development of power was defeated by 10,000 votes. But when the returns from the remote farm communities finally came in that majority was cut to 200. The big adverse majorities rolled up in the big cities all but disappeared.

The Manning Government now has less justification than ever for interpreting the result of the plebiscite as a mandate to deprive two-thirds of the people of Alberta of a minimum standard of decent living.

The facts of life in Alberta are these: (1) Because of the sparsity of settlement, it is financially impossible for the private power companies to provide service for two-thirds of the farm population. (2) The Manning Government has set itself against proceeding by public ownership, against electrifying rural Alberta as the Manitoba Government is electrifying rural Manitoba.

What then is left? Do we sit back and condemn two-thirds of the people of Alberta to be deprived in perpetuity of the ordinary amenities of life? Not if we can help it.

A similar problem was faced years ago by the government of Ontario. Even its publicly-owned Hydro could not afford to extend power lines into sparsely settled rural Ontario. But, to get power to the farm population, the Ontario Government adopted the policy of paying half the capital cost of power lines and equipment to supply rural customers. It also guarantees the Ontario Hydro Commission against any loss incurred in fixing maximum service charges to rural customers.

Two-thirds of the farm population live in areas so remote that they cannot be supplied with electricity economically. For the private companies to try to service them would lead to certain bankruptcy. But we suggest that the Ontario system, while it would not be practical in Alberta, does point the direction.

We suggest that the Government should make a grant to the power companies, equal to the capital cost of extending power lines into the uneconomic areas. This would overcome the problem of sparse population on prairie farms. Without such a subsidy, the majority of the people of Alberta can forget about rural electrification.

If it happened that these grants increased the power company profits beyond

what the Government regarded as reasonable, it has the solution in its own hands—order a rate cut. The great virtue of this argument, to our mind, is that it gets away from the public versus private power controversy. It gets to the heart of the problem — to extend power and the amenities of life to the people of the farms *in their lifetime*.

★

## Anybody Got A Good Hobby?

THAT question arises from the story we heard recently about an Alberta farmer. He got interested in carpentry while watching a cabinet maker making a kitchen cupboard. He watched carefully and then just for the heck of it set out to try to duplicate the job.

He got some tools, some lumber and started fooling around. Soon he could saw a square cut, could handle a plane and a chisel. Then he built a cupboard. A neighbor saw it and now he is turning a hobby into a profitable leisure-time occupation.

We'd like to hear about hobbies, for a man with a hobby is a happy man. What about cameras? Do any of our farmers take, develop and print their own pictures? Or do they paint, or lay brick, or carve? And is whittling a completely lost art on the prairies?

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## Mr. Howe Pointed the Direction

IF the Liberal party really wants to regain its lost ground in the West we have a suggestion. Let it send Mr. Howe out to make more of the kind of speeches he made to the Alberta Wheat Pool and the U.F.A. in Calgary last month.

Very often we have found ourselves in profound disagreement with Mr. Howe. We still don't like the Howe-Abbott austerity program. That does not mean that we do not recognize in Mr. Howe a man of great courage, energy and ability. The job he did in Munitions and Supply during the war, for example, was one of the magnificent high marks of our whole effort.

Mr. Howe made the kind of speeches in Calgary westerners like to hear. They were full of punch and heavy with fact. They bore little resemblance to the usual high-blown political oratory, yet they were very good political speeches just the same.

One of the weaknesses of the Liberals in the West is that they have not only allowed the statement of their case to go by default; they have allowed others to steal the credit for many federal measures. Aids from the west have been political pastures on the prairies have been left unattended by the Liberals. It is almost six months since Mr. St. Laurent was elected leader of the party. It is no compliment to the West that in that length of time he has not found it necessary to pay us a visit.

It was apparent after Mr. Howe's very good speeches that Alberta farmers were both receptive and impressed. But the full advantage can only be taken of these facts if Mr. Howe is followed by other Liberal ministers, and at regular intervals.

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## The Postage Rate Is Too High

IT isn't too important, but we think the small town of the west have a legitimate complaint over the postage rate for local mail. Instead of charging three cents a letter, one cent would be closer to value received.

In the cities, we can drop a letter into a box on the street. It is picked up by a truck, taken to the post office, cancelled, distributed to letter carriers and then delivered to the addressee at his home.

None of these services are rendered in the small towns. A merchant mailing a batch of bills takes them to the post office. The postmaster distributes them in the appropriate boxes and the addressee comes to the post office and collects his mail.

Several Alberta towns have started to agitate for a more equitable postage rate for service of this kind. We think they've got a good case.

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## Permanent Assets Or Holes In The Ground?

THE big news in Alberta, the discovery of the new Redwater oilfield, adds a note of urgency to the need for provincial governments to adopt a sane and constructive policy on natural resources.

Alberta has its oil and gas. Saskatchewan has radio-active ore. Manitoba has gold and copper properties. These are all capital assets that are owned by the people. But once they are developed they become, all of them, valueless holes in the ground. The revenue from these resources can go into the general revenues and be spent. Or, more wisely, they can be earmarked for the construction of other capital assets, things like roads, schools, hospitals, universities.

Oil companies are now bidding hundreds of thousands of dollars for the right to take oil from crown reserves in Alberta. The payments for a few sections of land in the new Redwater field alone would provide a university for Calgary. Sales of even smaller parcels would build and outfit an irrigation school. Then, when the oil is all gone, the people will still have capital assets. This whole question should be thoroughly aired in the legislature this winter.

# The U.F.A.'s 40 Years

(An Editorial in the Lethbridge Herald)

THE United Farmers of Alberta, born 40 years ago in January out of the wedding of the Canadian Society of Equity and the Alberta Farmers' Association, is now holding its annual convention in Calgary, and out of it may come the disappearance of this organized farm body which has served agricultural interests in the Province for four decades. For at the convention it is expected that a resolution will be passed that the U.F.A. merge with the Alberta Farmers' Union to the end that a united front may be presented in the years ahead when, it may be expected, agriculture will face some difficult problems as the edge is taken off inflation.

The U.F.A. through the years has faced some stormy passages, not the least important of which was the excursion into politics in 1921 when the U.F.A. Government was elected by an overwhelming vote of the people. It was a third party movement, and like most such movements when they gain initial successes, it went out as fast as it came in. The party was obliterated

in 1935 by another third party which came into being on the heels of the depression — Social Credit. As a result, the strength and prestige of the U.F.A. was greatly weakened, and only the hard core of followers, some 10,000, has remained till now.

In forty years during which Alberta has been in the making, the U.F.A. has been a great power for good, particularly in the building of the co-operative movement. It was the late Henry Wise Wood as president who launched the Wheat Pool, and that has been followed by various other co-operatives which are helping farmers in their buying and selling problems till today a good percentage of farm produce and consumer goods bought by the farmers is handled through their own co-operative enterprises.

Even if the U.F.A. as such does pass out of existence on amalgamation with the Alberta Farmers' Union it will have left a notable mark upon the life and economy of this Province, more than justifying the early hopes and dreams of the little band of members of the Society of Equity and the Farmers' Association who founded it during the early days of Alberta.

## Liquor Prices And Milk Prices

By COLIN G. GROFF

(Extract from a speech to the U.F.A. Convention in Calgary)

PRICES of such essentials as milk and butter and bread and eggs are high today, but they are not any higher, or even as high, as the level of prices in many other lines, or higher than the general level of wage rates in industry.

Farmers are getting good prices today, but these prices are not out of line with their high costs of production.

What seems to have been overlooked is that for 15 long years prior to 1945, the price level of foods, or farm products, was below the normal ratio rates in industry and below the price level of many lines of goods the farmers had to buy.

In other words the Canadian people have been used to cheap food for so long that when they have to pay a price more in line with the real value of the product, there is complaint.

We hear so much about the high price of milk and butter today, and how hard it is for families to buy these necessities of life. But we ignore the fact that for every dollar we have been paying out for milk, we have been paying three for beer, and tobacco, in the last few years.

The most recent figures tell us that in 1946 we paid out for alcoholic beverages and tobacco, four times as

much as we did in the year before the war, but the increases in the sale of fluid milk haven't approached anything like those proportions. We paid out more than 800 millions of dollars in 1946 for alcoholic beverages and tobacco and only 209 millions for fluid milk.

Here are a few figures: Beer consumption increased 132 per cent between 1937 and 1947. Consumption of wine and spirits increased 91 per cent, fluid milk sales 38 per cent. In 1939 we spent 280 millions in liquor and tobacco, in 1946—803 millions. In 1939 we spent 134 millions on fluid milk; in 1946, 209 millions. The output in the soft drink industry has more than tripled in recent years. The fluid milk industry has increased by less than half of its pre-war volume.

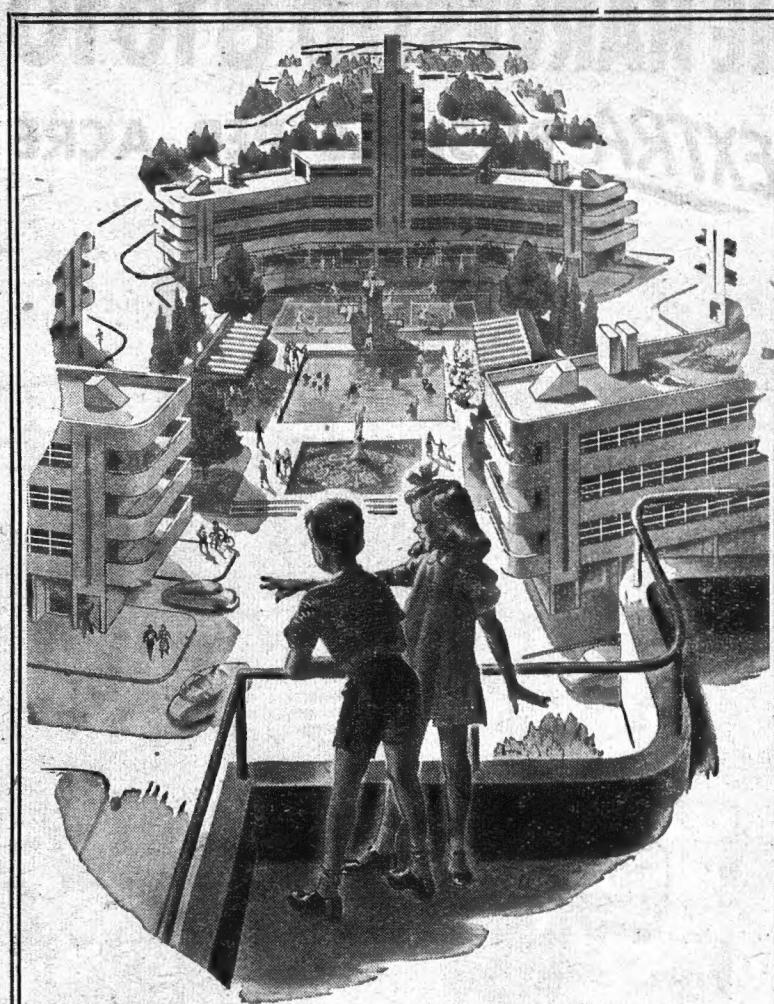
I am not one to deny the right of men and women to drink and smoke if they wish. But I submit that if we have 800 millions a year to spend for liquor and tobacco, surely we can have little complaint to make about the price of milk and butter.

The other day I read in the Ottawa papers that Calgary bricklayers were being paid \$1.60 an hour with a limit of 300 bricks a day. Farmers will be the last of all to begrudge workmen in industry a good wage rate, and I am sure no one here begrudges the bricklayers their high scale. But I could not help wondering what the cost of milk and butter would be if farm workers who are as skilled as bricklayers, were to be paid on the same sort of scale, or if they were to reduce their efficiency of production in the same way.

## Road thru the weeds



Manitoba Co-operator Photo



## What kind of world will your children inherit?

• Probably it will be a better world in every way.

Certainly it will be a *healthier world*. For science is working ceaselessly to devise more effective ways of treating and preventing disease.

But the task is enormous — *and costly*. That is why the life insurance companies in Canada have contributed large sums of money for many years toward the work of medical science — particularly in the field of preventive research.

As a result, more men and women are enabled to work in well-equipped laboratories waging war against cancer, tuberculosis and polio. More facts are being discovered in order to promote better nutrition, prenatal care and dental hygiene. And, the skill and devotion which these scientists bring to their work promises new freedom from sickness in years to come.

By supporting their efforts, the life insurance companies help to raise the health standard of the nation.

By owning life insurance, you help to create a healthier world for your children.

*A message from the Life Insurance Companies in Canada and their agents*

It is good citizenship to own  
**LIFE INSURANCE**

# HE HARVESTED 8 TO 10 EXTRA BUSHELS PER ACRE



Grain farmer L. M. Babcock, Avonlea, Sask., is one of the many enthusiastic users of Agricultural Weed-No-More.

## By Controlling Weeds With Agricultural Weed-No-More

L. M. Babcock of Avonlea, Sask., sprayed 700 acres of wheat with Agricultural Weed-No-More this year. He says . . .

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Figure out your profits with an extra 8 to 10 bushels per acre. They really add up. The bigger yield absorbs the cost of weed-killer and application, and leaves plenty to spare.

Kill weeds in your grain with Agricultural Weed-No-More. It penetrates quicker . . . rainfall minutes after application cannot wash it off. It acts faster . . . kills weeds more quickly than any other weed-killer. It's safe . . . used according to directions, it will not harm crops.

In addition, recent research has shown that the ingredients in a 2,4-D Ester formulation, other than the ester itself, play an important role in the performance of the product. These field tests showed that the other ingredients in Agricultural Weed-No-More make it suspend more readily, mix more easily with hard water, provide extra safety for crops, give quicker knock-down and better control of weeds. Don't gamble with weed control. Use Green Cross Agricultural Weed-No-More, proved superior on over 1,500,000 acres of Canadian grain.

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(Quick-Penetrating ESTER of 2,4-D) \*Reg'd. trade-mark

Made by Green Cross Insecticides Sutherland Ave. at Euclid St., Winnipeg, Man.

## Thinking of Insulating Your Home? Here Are Some Things You Should Know

By NORMAN FLANDERS

THINKING of building a new house, or a barn, or even a chicken house? Then, if you live on the prairies, you would be wise to put insulation at the very top of the things you must include in the new building.

Insulation functions to block the flow of air into a building from outside, and out of a building from inside. An insulated house or barn is warmer in winter and cooler in summer. It is healthier, more liveable and more economical.

Newcomers to insulation are often puzzled by the contradictory advice they get. The advice usually is slanted in favor of the kind of insulating material the adviser is trying to sell. With insulation as with everything else, it is always a wise rule to investigate before you invest. If you have any doubts, after investigation, your provincial agricultural extension service will help to put you straight.

Meanwhile, here are some facts about insulation to be kept in mind.

Insulating material falls roughly into four types. There are the wallboards — Tentest, Insulboard, etc. There are the blanket types, Rockwool, Gyprocwool, Kimsul, etc. There are the loose fill type which run all the way from shavings to Zonolite, a processed mica. In addition, now gradually expanding its market, there is the reflective type which is usually aluminum foil either by itself, in the form of paint, or as backing on cardboard or even wallboard.

All these types have things to recommend them. All have certain weaknesses or defects.

Of prime importance in any new construction, regardless of the type of building, is to make it conform with general building practice. The studs — the upright bones for the walls — should always be spaced at 16-inch centres. That goes for the ceiling joists as well. By doing so it will be possible to use any type of insulation without trouble because the batts, blankets and wallboards are all designed for installation on studs set 16 inches from centre to centre.

While loose fill insulation is ideal for ceilings of all kinds, it has not proven satisfactory for walls. It tends to settle to the bottom and allows heat to escape through the walls near the ceiling. In addition, unless special care is taken to instal vapor barriers on the inside of the insulated wall, moisture will condense in the insulation. A costly job of ripping out walls may result. This is important to bear in mind in insulating barns where moisture is prevalent.

On the point of cost, it is quite easy to spend too much on insulation. For example the amount of fuel saved by using a three-inch blanket insulation, in preference to a two-inch blanket, may not be nearly enough to justify the extra expense.

Two inches of Zonolite between the studs in the attic is usually ample. Doubling the amount will not double the fuel savings. To avoid condensation in the attic, after it is insulated, it is always wise to instal ventilating louvres, and to back these with heavy wire to repel birds and squirrels.

According to reports of recent tests, the new foil insulations are proving to be just as effective in preventing heat loss as the older types.

While the use of insulation will cut fuel costs, it must be remembered that faulty construction can counteract all the good obtained from the use of insulation. Many drafts can be traced to lack of proper calking around window and door frames. If marks show up on the plaster around windows and doors it is an indication that the trim should be taken off and a calking job done.

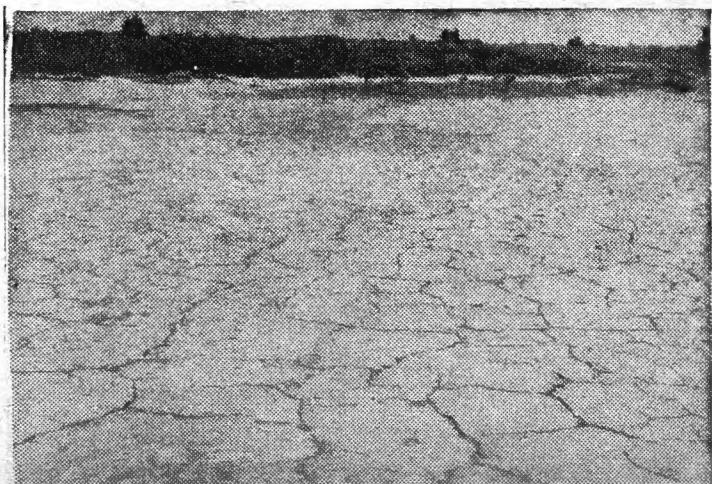
The most difficult problem to solve in the search for comfort is that of cold floors. A thermometer on the wall may register 80 degrees, but if the floors are cold the room is uncomfortable.

In an effort to maintain warmth at floor level, many prairie farmers bank their houses with snow to keep out drafts. If, however, the walls are not insulated, this may aggravate the cold floor problem. A better method is to insulate the floors. If it cannot be done easily by getting under the house and using a foil or blanket type of material, a new floor can be laid inside the space between the old and the new insulated with any standard type or material.

Houses which have basements can solve the cold floor problem, at least in part, by coating the inside of the basement walls with aluminum paint. The heat lost through the basement walls above the ground level is heat that should be trying to force its way upward through the basement ceiling.

An easy test of heat loss is available. If after a storm, the snow lies flush against the basement wall, there is little loss of heat. But if a space shows between the snow and the wall it means heat is going out through the wall. The wider the space the more heat that is being lost.

## Flood Aftermath . . .



Manitoba Co-operator Photo

## Farmers told crusade is needed

A "CRUSADE" in agriculture in Manitoba is the only solution to the problems of decreased production and desertion of farms, J. H. Evans, deputy minister of agriculture, told the first annual Farm and Home Week convention in Winnipeg.

Speaking at the opening session of the four-day convention, in the Playhouse theatre, Mr. Evans declared: "What's worrying us today is a perfectly normal result of the course we have followed over the years."

Synthetic products would encroach more and more on the Manitoba farm market, he warned, unless farmers stopped giving up their land. "If those engaged in the production of food are going to abdicate that position and create a scarcity of food, then the responsibility must rest on the shoulders of those people," he said.

Today, he warned, farmers had let bacon production lag to the place where the reduced British bacon quota "won't embarrass the people of Canada — unless they can't meet that quota."

"We have fallen short of merchandising our farm products," Mr. Evans stated, "and therein lies our greatest hope." The problem had come under consideration at the recent Dominion-provincial conference from which he had just returned, Mr. Evans added, and it was his belief that the whole farm situation could be solved by stepping up the marketing of produce.

### Cut Down Expenses

"Our problem in this country is to set our agricultural house in order. There is no time like the present for the farmer to do so," he said. "We can afford to liquidate today what is not revenue producing," he added, urging farmers to cut down on extra expenses and take stock of their position.

"My chief concern," the speaker added, "is what is happening to our soil." Farmers had not shown much wisdom in soil management, he said, and the problem there was one of maintaining, keeping intact and improving the land needed for food. "We must have faith in the program to preserve, improve and keep our soil," he told the convention.

"Let's get down to work and let's do something," he concluded. "Nothing short of a crusade will place agriculture in Manitoba in the position it should occupy."

Other speakers were Prof. J. A. Russell, of the department of agriculture, University of Manitoba, and W. R. Leslie, superintendent of the Morden experimental station, who spoke on the farm home and its environment.

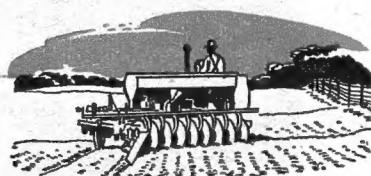
## Mrs. Roosevelt Coming to Calgary

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, one of the world's outstanding personalities, will address a public meeting in Calgary March 3rd, 1949. Mrs. Roosevelt who heads one of the committees on U.N., will speak on certain phases of U.N. activities.

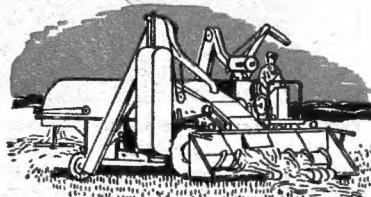
The Northwest Canadian Council B'nai B'rith is sponsoring Mrs. Roosevelt's tour of Western Canada. She also will speak in Saskatoon, Regina and Edmonton. Arrangements in Calgary are under the Calgary B'nai B'rith Lodge, who will announce the place of the meeting as soon as a place can be obtained that will accommodate comfortably the large number of people who will no doubt wish to hear Mrs. Roosevelt.



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Once you have driven a Cockshutt "30" you too will praise the unique "LIVE" POWER TAKE-OFF that gives you constant, controlled power at all times on the driven implement and the CREEPER GEAR that provides 4 extra forward speeds and an additional reverse speed, giving a total of 8 forward and 2 reverse speeds.

You will also realize the value of these features which, in combination, provide the same continuous power for the driven machine as if it were equipped with an auxiliary motor and AT MUCH LOWER COST.

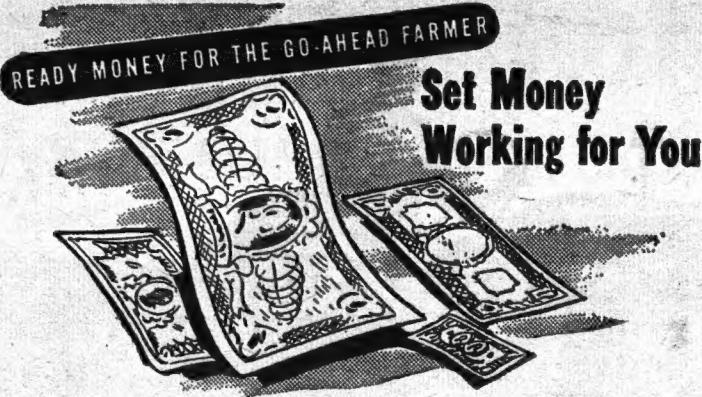
You will appreciate the hydraulic lift designed to operate at all times when the engine is running so that when you de-clutch you still have a LIVE HYDRAULIC LINE.

You will like the HIGH WHEEL CONSTRUCTION that affords better vision, more clearance, greater traction. Combined with real fuel economy, all these COCKSHUTT "30" features add up to the one thing every farmer wants most... EASIER, FASTER, CHEAPER POWER FARMING.



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## REBUILDING THE WEST

### Here's How a Manitoba Farmer Won The Battle Against Erosion

(From the *Manitoba Co-operator*)

SOUTH of Harding, Man., lies a countryside of broad rolling slopes where pastoral beauty gives a picture of delight. There, too, lies a farm tilled by a third generation of Grahams, Ivan and Jack, and a story so vital that it needs the telling.

In 1890 Robert Graham settled on the southeast quarter of 23-11-23. The soil was rich and fertile, progress was made, and as time passed the original holding was expanded until Howard Graham, and now his sons, are working 1½ sections, of what Professor Ellis of the University of Manitoba refers to on his soil maps as Kenton silty clay soil. All went well until the last score years when erosion, particularly by water, began to take its toll. The organic matter content of the soil was seriously reduced, fields were broad and unprotected; and the life-giving water which fell, instead of soaking into the earth, ran off, and carried with it tons of the fertile top soil. Yields began to decline noticeably, and by the early '40's, on each broad slope, gullies ran deep and

stabilize the work done. At the same time some very seriously eroded knolls were sown down. Not all catches were 100% the first year, but determination was the keynote of this program, and by 1945 all the critical points had been stabilized and brought under control.

A victory had been won. However, "sheet and rill" erosion was still busy removing precious top soil, and the only answer to this was to make the water soak into the soil where the crops could use it and not let it run off down the slopes. So, in the spring of 1945 Ivan rigged sights and a stand on his carpenter's level, and, with his father and brother Jack, laid out control guide lines over all the farm slopes. These lines were then sown down to brome and alfalfa, one width of the drill, to act as buffer strips and permanent guide lines so that all the field work could be done on the contour. Catches were good on these strips, and by the next year it was evident that the strips, the maintenance of trash cover, and contour cultivation were holding the soil even on the summerfallow field.



transportation across them by any vehicle or implement was impossible.

Prior to the development of this critical stage Ivan had noticed the tell-tale signs of water erosion and started to study all the reliable information that he could obtain on water and soil conservation. By 1943 he was ready to swing into action and that year attacked the gullies. By using farm equipment and municipal grader, these deep scars were filled in and broadened out so that implements could cross and the cutting force of the water reduced.

Immediately afterwards a mixture of brome grass and alfalfa was sown with a nurse crop in the new saucer-shaped runs to protect the soil and sta-

The deadly menace — erosion — had at last been brought under control.

To assure that the final victory will be a permanent one, and so that the depleted fertility may be improved and then maintained, these farmers are now planning to work into a rotation that will include soil improving crops of grasses and legumes. When this is finally achieved there will be no fear of the next generation taking over a run-down or ruined farm. It will be a productive unit. In an age when soil erosion and the subsequent depletion of one of our greatest national assets is one of our greatest problems of our time, this outstanding achievement warrants wide-spread recognition.

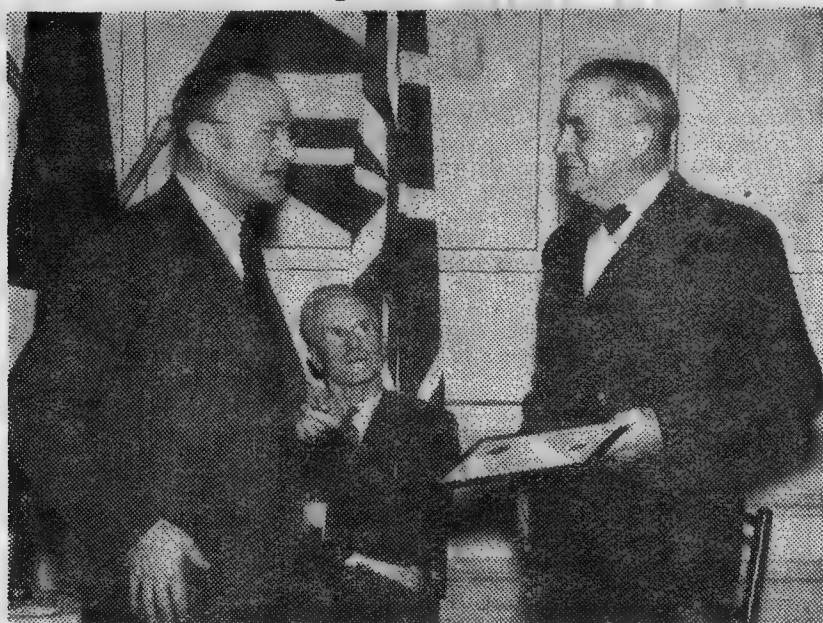
### Still Another Co-op Farm

REGINA. — A number of farmers in the Pierceland area of northwest Saskatchewan have pooled their land and equipment and formed the Mudie Lake Co-operative Farm, bringing to 12 the number of co-op farms incorporated in the province, it was announced by Co-operatives Minister L. F. McIntosh.

"Experience of the new co-op farm's

members has clearly shown some of the advantages of farming on a co-operative basis," the minister said. "As individual farmers," he explained, "they were unable to purchase adequate machinery to clear and work their land, which is mostly bush, and used horses entirely since settling in the region of Pierceland during the early 1930's."

## Lethbridge Editor Honored



At a recent ceremony in Lethbridge, H. G. Long, General Manager and Agricultural editor of the Lethbridge Herald, was presented with an Honorary Membership certificate to the Agricultural Institute of Canada in recognition of his long service to western agriculture. The presentation was made by Dean Sinclair of the University of Alberta, national president of the A.I.C., and H. Chester, Lethbridge, president of the Southern Alberta branch, was in the chair at the dinner meeting at which the presentation was made.

Left to right: Dr. Sinclair and H. G. Long standing. H. Chester, President of the Lethbridge branch, A.I.C., seated.

## Newer Apple Varieties Developing For Prairie Farm Orchards

**MORDEN:** Of the hundreds of apple strains and varieties being tested here, four continue to respond favorably and are recommended for test growth to farmers living on the southern prairies. These are the Breakey, Manitoba Spy, Manitoba and the Mantet.

The Breakey sets medium-sized fruit on a tall, upright tree. It is quite hardy at Morden. This apple is about medium size, bright red with scattered stripes of brighter red. Its flesh is mellow and juicy with a sweet, pleasant flavor. It can be eaten fresh and makes good apple sauce. The season is early and these apples will keep in storage until early winter.

Manitoba Spy also grows on a tall, robust tree and is the hardiest of the four top varieties. The apple is large, well colored and dark red and is highly rated for sauce or pies. It keeps well into the winter.

Manitoba grows on a small round tree of moderate hardiness. The fruit is yellowish green, its season is October to late winter and the general quality is good.

Mantet is an early fall eating apple of pleasant flavor and color. The tree is tall, upright and fairly hardy. Though the least hardy of these four, it definitely rates a trial in the southern section of the prairies.

### Brooks Winners

Two introductions from the Brooks Station have shown much promise in testing at Morden. These are the Brooks Beauty and the Brooks 14.

Brooks Beauty makes a medium tall, rounded tree that is well branched with strong crotches. It seems fully hardy. The fruit size is medium to large reaching  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter; of fair color being about equal light green and medium bright red. It cooks into a most acceptable sauce or pie. Brooks No. 14 develops into a tallish tree that is strongly crotched, moderately dense in foliage and hardy. The fruit is smaller than Brooks Beauty and not quite as well colored, yet sufficient to be attractive. Texture and flavor of the cooked product is rated very high, superior to Brooks 14.

### For Northern Farms

Heyer No. 12, while not new, cannot be left out of a discussion of hardy apples for the prairies. It is one of the hardest, along with Moscow Pear apple. Its late blooming habit makes it valuable for northern districts. This smallish, creamy green apple ripens after mid-August, and is fair to eat out of hand, or cooked.

Rescue is an apple crab that should find a place in all northern orchards. The medium tall rounded tree is very hardy and the bright red small apple or large crab ripens about the third week of August. It is of fine quality, although its season is short and it soon becomes mealy.

Trail offers a fine companion variety to Rescue. Trail ripens after Rescue, keeps into early winter, and its crisp, juicy sweet flavor is liked by all. Another selection in the class of apple crab is M352, a Dolgo x Haralson cross, developed at Morden. It ripens after Trail, is bright dark red in color, crisp, juicy and more sprightly acid in flavor than Trail, and keeps until deep winter in storage. The tree is very sturdy, healthy and hardy. Where Trail is too tender, M352 should be tried.

A Minnesota selection No. 455 deserves consideration. This rounded tree of medium height has been abundantly hardy and productive at Morden. The smallish fruits measuring up to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches are well colored with reddish carmine. They are only fair quality but keep until late winter. Their hardiness, productiveness and passable quality makes them worthy of test. Several numbered selections, including M333, M336, M5034 - E113, and M5034 - E240 are showing promise of competing with older recommended varieties.

## leave winter behind Holiday



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## How To Store Ice For Summer Use

THE storage of a few blocks of ice for summer use is a very simple matter where the ice is readily available. Any unoccupied corner of a shed will serve for the purpose. A rough board enclosure ten feet square and eight feet high will hold enough ice to provide 50 pounds per day for 130 days, after allowing for a reasonable amount of wastage. The smaller the quantity stored, the larger is the proportion of waste.

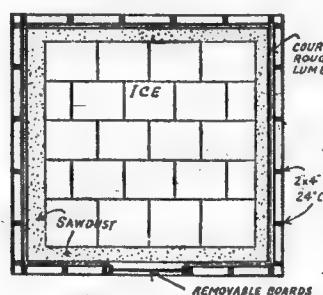
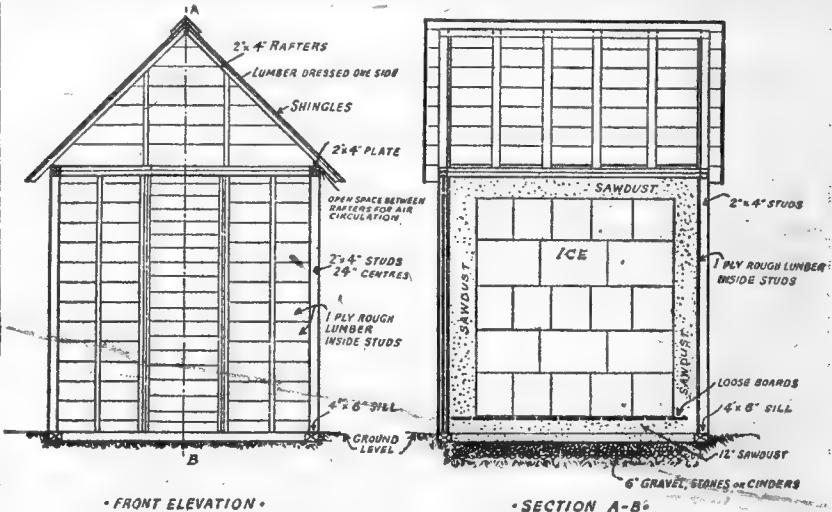
The bottom of the enclosure should be covered with about one foot of sawdust. If the soil underneath is impervious clay, it will be all the better if there is a few inches of gravel under the sawdust. In putting in the ice the boards can be taken away from one side and replaced after the ice is in position. A space of one foot, to be filled with sawdust, should be left between the ice and the boards, and the ice should be covered with about the same thickness. It is the sawdust which keeps the ice from melting.

The drier the sawdust is the better the ice will keep, and it is a good plan, as the ice is removed during the sum-

mer to be used again the following year. The ice should be cut in blocks of uniform size and packed as closely together as possible.

If it is necessary to erect a special ice-house, the roughest kind of a shed that is necessary. Poles may be driven into the ground and lined up on the side with rough lumber or slabs, leaving a space of about three-eighths of an inch between each board, and the whole covered with a roof to keep out the rain.

The plan shows the construction of a building with 2- by 4-inch studding lined with rough lumber inside, and a space of three-eighths of an inch left between each board. If for any reason a building with a better finish and appearance is desired, the outside of the studs may be covered with clapboards, shiplap or other siding, with ample ventilation above the ice. Ventilation can be provided by leaving the spaces between the rafters open, or by placing louvre openings in the gable ends. It is also advisable to leave a two-inch space at the bottom and top of the clapboards, which will provide



mer, to throw out from time to time the driest of the sawdust where it will be under cover and continue to dry out and thus be in better condition

a circulation of air between the studs, and help to keep the sawdust dry.

If sawdust cannot be obtained, planer-mill shavings may be used for packing the ice, or in cases where neither is available, hay may be used as a packing or covering material.

Marsh or "slough" hay or any fine wild hay which grows in low places gives the best results. If hay is used, the space around the ice or between the ice and the walls instead of being only one foot, should be at least two feet, and into this space the hay must be well packed. The ice should also be covered with about two feet of the hay.

## Dutch Farm Labor For the West

WESTERN farmers will again this year have an excellent opportunity to secure Dutch farm workers to assist in farm operations on a year-round basis.

The Netherlands government, realizing that there is a very limited opportunity in the homeland for independent farmers to become established on land of their own, has entered an agreement with Canada, whereby up to 20,000 Dutch citizens will enter the Dominion as farm workers, and it is hoped that they will eventually take up land of their own and become absorbed in our farm economy.

These Dutch immigrants for the most part are family units and each individual is prepared and will look forward to the time he will become a

Canadian citizen. All persons involved in the movement will be physically fit, be of good character and will be qualified at mixed farming. Some of these families will have special training or experience in dairy work, grain farming, animal husbandry, etc. These people are the most desirable type of settler and they will be arriving at a time farm labor is urgently required.

The farmers interested in getting Dutch farm immigrants can apply to the Immigration Branch, Dept. of Mines and Resources, Calgary, Regina or Winnipeg.

Farmers making application must be in a position to provide adequate accommodation, plus a daily supply of milk and eggs and make available to the immigrants a small plot suitable for growing their own vegetables. The minimum wage requirements are on a modest and reasonable basis.

Where irrigation brings sure production and new crops to Western Canada, the Case Model "VAC" is fast becoming a favorite. Here is a light 2-plow tractor with heavy-duty engine — power that hangs on, performance that lasts.



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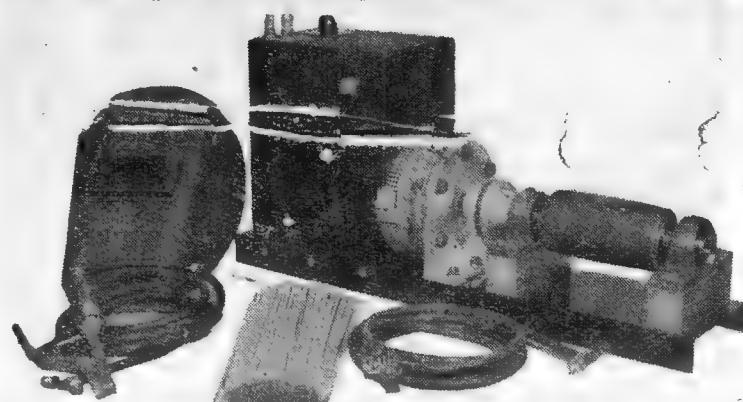


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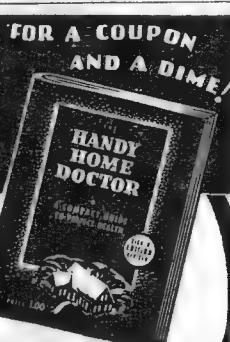
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### IN NATURE'S WONDERLAND

## Make Friends of Wild Animals But Don't Try to Tame Them

By KERRY WOOD

(Author of *Three Mile Bend, Birds and Animals of the Rockies, A Nature Guide for Farmers.*)

A LOT of farm children write me to bed and chanced to wake up the bird. ask how they can tame wild animals or birds to make them pets. I always answer that it is much more interesting to see a wild creature living at liberty, enjoying its natural freedom amid the wilds instead of brooding in a cage.

Taming a wild bird or an animal is a grave responsibility; the wild creature wholly dependent upon the boy or girl for food and shelter, and can not earn its own living out in the wilds from then on. If a wild creature, captured during its young days, is turned loose after being kept in captivity for a month or longer, it will likely die of starvation shortly after it is liberated. And some youngsters, it must be admitted, seem to be fond of a wild pet only while it is very young: as soon as it starts to grow up they lose interest in their pet and want to be rid of it.

So it is really far better to make friends with birds and animals still living in the wilds, taming them with food-offering without trying to catch them and confine them in cages. At this wintry time of year, many birds really appreciate finding some free food near our homes. Put out bread crumbs and cracked grain on a kitchen window shelf and notice how quickly Chickadees, Blue Jays, and Woodpeckers hurry to sample your offerings. Better still, hang some fatty suet on trees around your yard, and all sorts of birds will hurry to feast on this heat-giving food.

A few animals will also join the feeding-shelf parade, such as Red Squirrels, Flying Squirrels at night-time, and chipmunks during the summertime and perhaps some dainty White-footed Mice if you live near woodlands. In addition to the birds mentioned, Juncos, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Catbirds, Robins, and even Waxwings will come to feeding shelves — some of them during the summer, some during the winter. And often a Ruffed Grouse or Partridge will come furtively out of the nearby woods to feast on the droppings from the feeding shelf, while sometimes pheasants, prairie chicken, and Hungarian Partridge become quite tame if we put out grain for them.

### The Pet Crow

If you must make a pet of some wild creature, don't pick on creatures that suffer in captivity — birds like eagles, hawks, and owls, animals like coyotes and other free-born hunters. You'll have your best pet-success with birds like Crows, Blue Jays and Magpies. The crow is one of the smartest birds we have, can be taught many amusing tricks, and seems to enjoy being a pet. Of course, after a crow is tamed, you don't need to keep him in a cage. He'll cheerfully hang around the yard and come a-flapping whenever you go out-of-doors.

My friend, Dave Blacklock of Turner, has tamed many crows, and believes they make the finest wild pets. Dave used to have a pet crow that perched on his shoulder while Dave was riding horse-back. Every now and then, the crow would hop off Dave's shoulder and start flying, calling to Dave to have a race. This same crow used to go to sleep on Dave's bed, sometimes perched on top of the blankets and sleepily uttering crow-words whenever Dave stirred on the

### Skunks as Pets

The wild animals that do not seem to mind captivity too much are Red Squirrels and Grey Squirrels, Chipmunks, and White-footed Mice. Also skunks — yes, skunks make wonderful pets, and a tame skunk will keep the mice cleaned out of your basement and barn much better than a cat! But if you decide on a skunk friend, better have your vet perform a de-odorizing operation on the baby skunk so that you won't have any smelly accidents.

A trapper friend of mine once tamed a wild skunk that had its den underneath his cabin, and it used to come up through a hole in the floor to share his flapjacks. It got very tame; it would even cuddle on his lap like a pussy and go to sleep. But one day a neighbor-trapper came over to visit and brought his dog with him. The dog saw the tame skunk there inside the cabin, and yipped and jumped for the bush-kitty. So the skunk sprayed the dog, right there inside the cabin — and my friend had to find himself a new home!

Remember something else: it is against the law to capture any birds protected by the Migratory Birds Convention Act, or to capture any fur-bearing animal subject to closed seasons. You can sometimes get special permits to keep a wild animal, of course, but generally speaking you should avoid trying to catch and tame any useful animal or bird. But no one minds you taming a young crow or magpie.

There are exceptions to every rule, of course. Remember Mickey, the pet beaver owned by Doris Forbes of Red Deer? Premier Manning even gave Doris a special title of ownership in this wonderful beaver! Mickey was found as a month-old kitten outside the Forbes' home, badly injured and paralyzed. Doris and her mother nursed the beaver-baby back to health, and Mickey became much tamer than any dog. During his nine-year life at the Forbes' home, Mickey met thousands of people and never once offended anyone by biting or acting surly. Most visitors even picked up Mickey and carried the fifty-pound beaver around the house and grounds.

When Doris was ill, Mickey stretched out on her bed and kept very quiet, seeming to realize that he mustn't be rough with his little mistress at such times. And when Doris caught the Whooping Cough, Mickey caught it too and whooped even louder than Doris. Doris sometimes took Mickey to school with her to show the other children a real live beaver — while at school, Mickey chewed up a pencil box and tried a nibble on the teacher's pointer!

Mickey died last March of beaver old-age, and Doris is sure she'll never know another pet as wonderful as that friendly beaver.

### Doris' Beaver

Another wild pet that was a lot of fun was a young coyote owned by Ouida Howard of Sylvan Lake, Alberta. She called her pet Bubbles, and Bubbles used to race all over the house, playing tag with Ouida's Pekinese dog. Bubbles allowed himself to be petted and patted, and really enjoyed playing with anyone who came to the house. Out-of-doors,

(Continued on page 15)



### On Second Thought

In Akron, authorities at Peoples Hospital apologized, decided that, all things considered, they had better not charge a woman patient for the tonsillectomy which had been performed on her by mistake.

### It's Like This

In San Francisco, Charles A. Dixon, arrested for counterfeiting, explained to police that he had only "wanted to make enough money to go straight."

### Imperialism

In London, the Colonial Office launched a "Know the Empire" campaign, explained that 3% of Britons believe that the U.S. is still a British colony.

### Disclaimer

In Little Rock, Ark., Ernest Horton Jr. paid a \$25 fine for shooting a goose out of season, but insisted: "It was just an accident... I'm really not that good a shot."

### Deep Cut

In Columbus, Ohio, when a married couple disagreed over the correct-way to cut cards, they asked a bridge expert's advice; when they consulted a lawyer about the expert's bill for \$25, they got another bill for \$15.

### Incompatibility

In Los Angeles, Mrs. Audrey Bougner, serving a life term in prison, thought things over, divorced her husband, also a lifer.

### Nature's Wonderland

(Continued from page 14)

he acted frightened, and seemed pleased when he was in his pen and could hide in his kennel. But indoors, he loved playing, and Ouida had some happy times with her friendly coyote puppy. Unhappily, Bubbles became bad-tempered when he grew up, and Ouida had to part with her pet.

The best pets are good dogs, either a laughing-jawed spaniel or a loyal collie or some other good breed. If you want something small that you can keep in the house, how about a canary or a parakeet or Love-bird? And if you want a caged pet, remember that the soft-coated rabbits are friendly creatures quite used to pens.

My own little girls, Rondo and Heather, have a trio of Syrian Golden Hamsters as pets. These beautiful little animals, sometimes called Toy Bears because of their interesting way of sitting up on their haunches, can live in a very small cage in the basement, and require only a tablespoonful of table-scrap as food per day. It's most amusing to watch them run around on their ladders and run-ways, and the girls often take the hamsters some pop-corn to watch the little animals stuff the fluffy white kernels into their enormous cheek-pouches.

These pouches will hold enough food to feed a hamster for three or four days — of course, they don't leave the food in the pouches, but carry it off to a favorite storage place and there pull it out and heap it up. We like to watch them make their nests, too — we give them feathers and shredded tissue paper and moss and the hamsters tuck this material into their cheek pouches, carry it to a dark corner, then pull it out and heap it up into a ball-shaped nest. Once the nest is finished, the hamster makes a hole for itself right in the middle and goes to sleep.

### Courtship

In Durham, N.C., Mabel Williams, refusing to press charges against Cleo Cozart, who had stabbed her, explained that they were going to be married.

### Precept & Example

In Alhambra, Calif., the city was getting through its "safety month" campaign in fine shape until two police cars collided. In Dayton, Audrey Jackson, on her way home from a traffic safety lecture, suffered a broken leg when she was hit by a taxi.

\* \* \*

In Galva, Ill., the Rev. Roger Wickstrand switched sermons at the last minute, admitted that he had lost the notes for the original one entitled: "Where art thou?"

### Perfectionist

In Salt Lake City, the girl who described herself in a want ad as the "proverbial dumb blonde" stenographer, forgot to list her name or phone number.

### Laboratory

In Seattle, S. E. Kram told police that his overcoat had been stolen from the cloakroom while he was attending class at Jewell's Detective School.

### Preselected

In Springfield, Mass., a woman complained that she could get nothing at all on her hearing aid but radio station WSFL next door.

### Beginner

In The Bronx, Pickpocket Plunk Williams confessed to police that he was only an apprentice, that two experienced friends had tried to teach him but "I'm a poor pupil. I fumble every time."

### Ready or Not

In Tallman, N.Y., Joseph Castellucci returned to his summer home shortly after the deer season opened, found: (1) a bullet-scarred chimney, (2) a well-riddled wall, (3) a bullet hole in the front window, (4) another in a bedroom mirror.

### Campaign

In Petersfield, England, Commuter Raymond Francis Baird paid a \$42 fine for pulling the emergency-stop cord on a 60-m.p.h. train, asserted: "I have written to the railway... I will pull all trains up when they are going too fast."

### Diversion

In North Plainfield, N.J., Joseph Vitelli explained to doctors that he had shot himself in the stomach to take his mind off a toothache.

### Accessory

In Cocke County, Tenn., revenue agents, hiding in the brush nearby until a moonshiner returned to his still, watched a bear sample the product, then in a drunken rage destroy both still and evidence.

### Family Album

In Pittsburgh, Minnie Just was married to William Good. In Detroit, Juliette St. Amour was granted a divorce from Romeo.

\* \* \*

In Chicago, Mrs. Millicent Koch divorced Claude Koch, husband No. 1 and No. 3, in order to remarry Raymond Oberg, husband No. 2.

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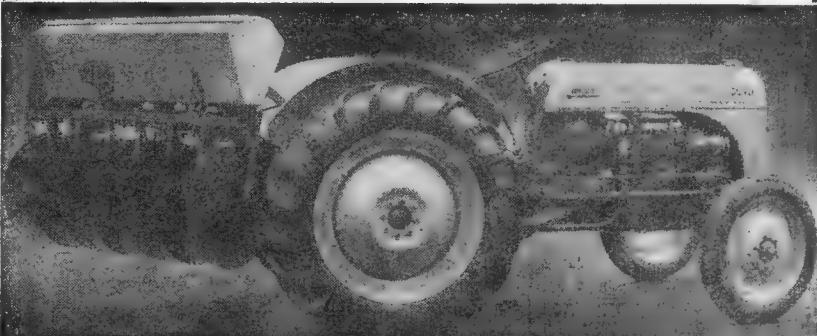
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## B. C. ROUND-UP

### Maintaining quality worries leaders at B.C. stock show

Lack of British orders causes heavy losses to Fraser Valley berry growers. Loss of markets causes potato growers concern.

By A. J. DALRYMPLE

**HISTORY** was made at the 10th unanimously agreed that a system of grading bulls be instituted at the next sale.

Junior leaders struggled with the problem of the poorly fitted animals brought in by some of the members of junior clubs. There was the suggestion that such animals should not be permitted in the ring.

Others argued that a youngster might have worked hard with a calf that was hard to manage and difficult to feed; and extreme care and tact had to be used in such cases, otherwise there would be heart-breaks among the children.

#### Hybrid Corn

Ranchers in Kamloops area are taking a growing interest in hybrid corn. G. A. Luyat, supervising agriculturist for the provincial government, has been experimenting since 1944; and this year he and his associates, Les Turcott and P. D. Graham, won first prize in the western division at the Royal Winter Fair.

Mr. Luyat started with a half acre plot. Today he and his associates have 45 acres at Cherry Creek. E. M. Hall has 85 acres at Chase Flats and is feeding 100 steers. Guichon Ranch has 35 acres. Several other ranchers have lesser acreages. A corn-picker has been imported from U.S.A.

In order to rid the range of unowned horses, and for the benefit of the cattle industry, range closure to all horses has been ordered for the third consecutive year in the Upper Columbia and Kootenay Valleys.

The forest branch, as administrator of public range lands, is in charge of the closure. Notice to horse owners is being served publicly. Notification states that horses found on public range during the closed period may be shot or otherwise disposed of.

Thirteen head of fine young registered Herefords purchased from Col. Victor Spencer's Earlcourt Ranch at Lytton, B.C., have arrived at Oregon State College, where they will be used to improve the livestock industry of the U.S.A.

Ten of the 13 are sired by Atok Lionheart, and three by a son of Atok Lionheart. The college will keep records on the amount of feed every animal requires to make its gains. The young bulls will be used on cows in the college herd and branch stations.

Offspring from each bull will be measured as to efficiency in utilization of feed, rapidity of gain, quality of carcass and yield in meat.

Fraser Valley berry growers face a million-dollar loss this year. They had stepped up production with the expectation of orders from Britain, and there are no contracts.

Officials in the berry industry estimate that there are 3,000 growers, averaging three acres of berries, who are in a bad spot. Much of the crop is barrelled in sulphur dioxide. Last year Britain took 2,500 tons, more than half the total production. This year, not a barrel.

Search for new markets has met with no success. One official, asked what the prospects are, said ruefully: "We might be able to give them away."

#### Poultry Problems

B.C. poultry organizations are "woefully weak," according to H. D. Arnold, president of Vancouver Island

(Continued on page 17)

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## FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTARY

# Formation Of Western Union Is Easier Said Than Done

By BEN MALKIN

WITH the general assembly of the United Nations now adjourned, the most important action facing the large western powers is formation of the military, economic and political alliance called Western Union, whereby the United States and Canada will join with Britain, France, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg in guaranteeing peace in Europe. Under Article 51 of the United Nations charter, it is quite proper for such a regional alliance to be formed in the interests of international security.

The general assembly itself took action in only two matters. It adopted a convention outlawing genocide, or the mass extermination of communities of one racial or religious complexion; and it adopted a declaration of human rights which, if brought into effect in a practical way, would free all of mankind from political and economic tyranny, and give humanity a degree of freedom and security hitherto unknown in history.

The declaration will later be presented to the United Nations as a convention, or treaty. The countries ratifying the convention, if and when it is adopted, will then have to abide by it, for a treaty has the force of law.

L. B. Pearson, Canada's minister of external affairs, told the assembly that while the Canadian government agreed with the terms of the declaration, it

## B. C. Round-up

(Continued from page 16)

Poultry Co-operative Association. The statement was made at a meeting of B.C. Poultry Industries Council.

The statement did not come as a shock. The lack of attendance at meetings, non-payment of dues, and general apathy have been known to the industry for a long time. At the recent annual meeting of the B.C. Federation of Agriculture, a poultry organization spokesman said his division could not pay its dues.

Leslie Gilmore, prominent Holstein and Hereford breeder, with farms on the lower mainland and in the Cariboo, was crowned potato king at the annual potato show in New Westminster.

There were approximately 300 entries, making a total exhibit of about 10 tons of spuds.

But while the show was one of the most successful in years, a cloud hung over the event, for the United States market has been closed to Canada as the Dominion's quota has already been shipped south.

Mr. Gilmore said that U.S.A. orders for more than 100 cars have been cancelled.

When 25 delegates to the annual meeting of the B.C. Interior Vegetable Marketing Board, Dec. 16-17 met, they discussed the growing competition between Alberta potato growers and B.C. farmers.

Edward Poole, board secretary, said: "Alberta has increased production 500 per cent during the past few years, and Alberta potatoes are being offered in this province at \$5 per ton less than the local product.

They decided that strict attention would have to be paid to grading as well as attractive appearance of B.C. potatoes. One delegate suggested having a representative travel the prairies to interest store-keepers in proper handling and storage of B.C. vegetables. He added that considerable amount of high-quality vegetables were ruined by inefficient storage at prairie points.

would be unable to sign the convention for constitutional reasons. Such matters as labor and education come, under the British North America Act, within the jurisdiction of the provinces, and the federal government, except in the case of a few inter-provincial industries such as transport and communications, has no authority to legislate on them.

Thus, for example, Article 24 of the declaration says: "Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay;" and Article 26, subsection 2, says: "Education shall be directed to the full development of human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, — racial and religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace."

But in Canada, legislation on working conditions and school curricula are both within the powers of the provinces, not the federal government, to legislate on.

The path toward formation of a Western Union is by no means clear of difficulties. Even though the U.S. administration is committed to it, intensive debate may be expected in the United States Congress on the question. The U.S. in the next 12 months must spend at least \$15,000,000,000 on its own armaments, and perhaps \$5,000,000,000 on economic aid to Europe. This is almost half the total U.S. budget. Could the United States, as well, formulate a new lend-lease program (and Britain, France and the Benelux countries have hinted that it would have to) in order to supply western Europe with military equipment, which is the only possible method of giving the new alliance teeth?

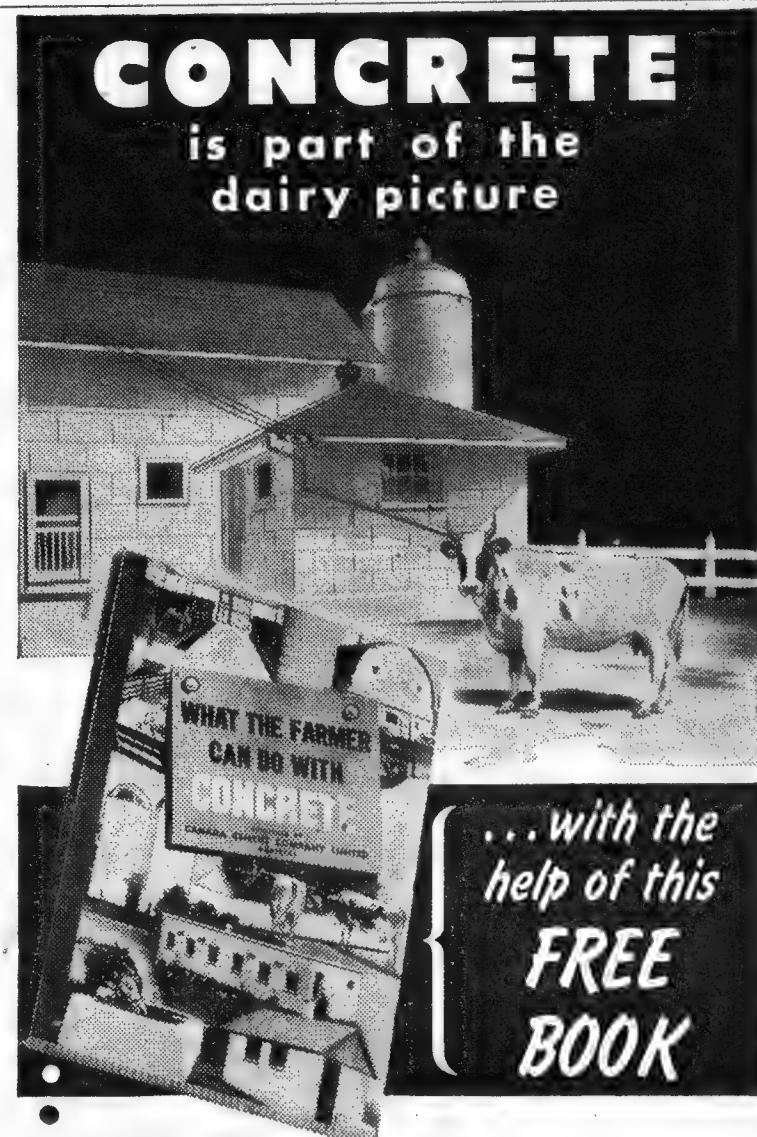
Not only will this present a difficulty in itself, but a long-drawn-out debate in Washington will have its repercussions in Ottawa. It is expected that Canada will have a general election next summer. Should the election be held before the U.S. Congress ratifies a Western Union pact, what happens then? The present Liberal government is committed to Western Union, but suppose it is not returned to office? It might ratify a treaty without waiting to see what action the U.S. Congress takes, and perhaps this is what Ottawa will finally have to do in order to ensure that Canada participates in the alliance.

Besides the shoals that lie ahead for ratification of a Western Union treaty in Washington, there has even been some talk in the past few weeks of objections in Congress to Marshall aid itself. An overhauling of the whole European Aid Program is certainly in the cards.

For example, Representative Walter C. Ploesser (Rep.-Mo.) has charged that purchases on ERP account are benefitting big business in the United States, but doing little for the small industrialist. He is expected to make this a lively issue during the debate of the 81st Congress on Marshall plan aid. Further, American shipping interests are assailing Paul G. Hoffman, administrator of the European Aid Program, for his decision to ship less than half his cargoes on U.S. vessels, because of their high shipping rates. He reasons that to ship more cargo than that on American lines would

merely constitute subsidization of the U.S. shipping industry through Marshall plan funds. Both the industry and the unions are united in opposition to this policy, and it may be expected that before Congress votes funds for Marshall plan aid next year this matter will have to be thrashed out.

Otherwise, the cold war between East and West seems to have remained at a fairly even temperature during the past few weeks. In Berlin it became a little warmer when the Russians boycotted the city elections and restore Austria's independence.



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## THE MURDER OF THE TREES

By KATHERINE HOWARD

"THERE'S no money in trees," says the bush farmer. "Jim Wilson's getting forty acres cut down with the brush-cutter. The guy that owns it only charges ten dollars an acre. Think I'll have that west sixty acres of poplar and stuff, cut out."

So the brush-cutter is hired, and the Leviathan of steel and iron and ruthless bladed power, moves in among the trees.

Down they go before the attacker, basely cut off in their prime. On all sides they crash to the ground, to lie twisted and tangled, their strength ridiculed, their beauty stricken, and their perfection warped and ruined.

Here lies what was the ultimate in beauty—a young birch tree, radiant with the first flush of Spring. Her tiny lacquered green leaves, like miniature emerald hearts were dancing in the sunlight, only an hour ago. Her long white branches swayed in the caress of the south wind, and from the, "Nest of robins in her hair," came little chirps of sheer rapture.

Now she lies prone, her branches flung out in desolation, her green leaves dying in the sunshine; and the robins' song is ended.

Beside her is a sturdy poplar, with once vibrant tassels still and lifeless, and as the roaring crashing monster of man's invention comes once again along his trail of destruction, majestic spruces, a study in perfection of symmetry, go down before his might.

Over the scene hangs an order of decay. The smell of bruised verdure, and tortured leaves and bark. There is a weird stillness, as though the little living denizens of the bush have been bitterly betrayed. There is no scratching and rustling and happy, busy little noises. All is silent, with the silence of death, except for the roar of the engine and the crashing of the trees.

Those few birds who have escaped the sudden disaster fly madly about over the unfamiliar scene. Where is the tall balsam that towered so high above his fellows? and where are the wild cherry trees, that filled the air

with the sweet fragrance of their pure blossoms?

Gone, in a welter of emerald and pale green. Gone in a grievous mess of branches and leaves and blossoms, to lie and rot, and become sere and withered, until the time is opportune for man to come with matches and set fire to the evidence of his insanity.

Because this destruction is unnecessary. This was a corner of "brush" on a farm of many cultivated acres. Each year the farmer made a good, substantial living, with his crops and his milch cows and his hogs. There is plenty of cultivated land; enough to raise all the crops he needs, and to feed his stock with, too.

But greed, envy and the fear that the neighbor who had hired the brush-cutter would get ahead, faster than this farmer makes him destroy the very elements that have kept his farm free from drought, and the devastating effects of soil drifting.

"No money in trees!" Perhaps! Neither is there any profit in a farm whose fields blow away in every high wind, or lie blackened and burnt in the blazing heat of a year without rain. And both of these possibilities become probabilities, if the trees are taken away from the land that gave them birth.

Progress is necessary, if man would survive; but there is the progress embodied in a machine, which, inside thirty hours can level sixty acres of vital beauty and perfection to a shattered pile of slashed and mutilated veterans of the forest and the field?

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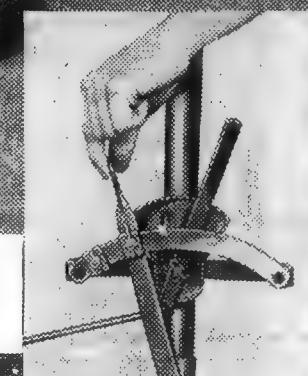
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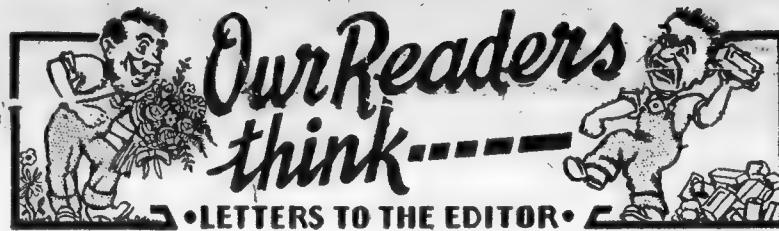
**T**HAT we will support our Nation in establishing justice . . . insuring domestic tranquillity . . . promoting the general welfare, and providing for the defence of these Democratic principles . . . to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our children.

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**Our ignorance arouses  
the pity of a reader**

To the Editor:

Your editorial, "The Mirage of U.S. Wheat Prices", in the November issue must have aroused feelings of pity in the minds of many farmers for an editor of a farm paper who would issue an article on such a vital question without any knowledge of his subject and apparently without even taking time to spend a moment of thought.

You begin forthrightly enough by stating a fact or two, to which I will return later, but wander off in a maze of theory and conjecture which is quite useless, but which you apparently publish as an argument to condone the blundering of the persons responsible for marketing our wheat.

In your introductory paragraph you refer to "the loss allegedly suffered by Canadian farmers as the result of the British contracts," and go on to nullify this further to your own satisfaction. I hope to show you that this loss is very real; and it is quite naturally irrecoverable.

You refer to the value of wheat on the world market or a "so-called world wheat price," but may I point out that in the 1946-47 crop year for example, this so-called price averaged 77c per bushel above what we received. (This was stated by Hon. J. A. McKinnon in Parliament on July 17, 1947). Result, net loss to farmers, 123

million dollars. The spread in the 1947-48 crop year averaged \$1.29 per bushel, and was never less than \$1.01, resulting in a loss to the farmers of 206 million dollars in that year.

Neither you nor anyone else can foresee what would happen if England stopped buying our wheat, but if, as you suggest, they did so, they would have to buy additional quotas from the U.S., the only country with sufficient funds to extend them further credit. Britain would then have to pay world price, which they certainly would not do when Canada will donate it to them at our contract prices.

You state that the wheat Board was aided by Canadian loans to Britain, and leave the impression that Britain would not buy our wheat if we did not have the Wheat Board. But since the Canadian Government loaned money to Britain originally to make purchases from Canada one might assume that wheat would have been one of the products purchased. She needed grain and had to buy from a country where she could secure it on credit. In such a case we might have received world prices for our grain. However, that is only conjecture, too.

The price of wheat sold to Britain is that obtained by our government in conjunction with representatives of the Wheat Board (which is actually an instrument of the government), and this price is a political one — not a world price. I have already outlined our loss in two years and the end is not here yet. You stated that the American wheat price remains a mirage to the Canadian producers, and this is true insofar as our hopes of ever securing a similar price under the present set-up.

The farmers' tax money, in part, backed the credit extended to Britain, and if she is not able to repay this loan in full, consider who takes a major part of the rap. On top of this, what other industry is required to provide goods for Britain at less than world prices.

England bought our wheat because we lent her money, and let her have the grain at very low prices. She is a business nation and did not secure her previous portion by allowing sentiment in her dealings. When she is back on her feet and doesn't need credit, and the world price drops below our present contract price, which one will she be willing to pay? We hope and are led to believe that we have a long-term contract, but the price is subject to revision every 3 months. Who can see security in that? It would seem to be about time for some of the high-priced help to get their heads out of the sand or vice versa.

The Wheat Board buys our wheat for the government, and is responsible only to them. I would appreciate it very much if someone can tell me how the farmer can be certain of securing a reasonable price for his wheat if the world price drops, and after the funds that the Wheat Board is now accumulating have been expended. But please don't tell me that this government, or any other, will chip in with any money.

S. A. HOLTHE.

Elk Point, Alta.

**No Sympathy  
For Coyotes**

To the Editor:

I have read with interest an article in your November edition, entitled "Who's Right About the Big Bad Wolf," by Kerry Wood. I do not just agree with him, when he says the coyote is being driven back by settlement. In order to justify my claim, I would like to tell you of some of my experiences. I have lived, since 1902, in the Kelsey district, twenty miles southeast of Camrose, Alberta, until two years ago, when I retired and am living in Victoria, B.C., the loveliest spot in Canada.

I have been raising sheep in quite large numbers for over twenty years.

If you could have seen the damage by coyotes to my sheep, you would agree with me that the coyote is not being driven back very successfully.

The coyote is a natural born killer of sheep. He does not always kill when hungry. I have seen them kill eight or ten lambs in a very few minutes, and be gone, no where in sight, with the lambs still warm.

I have seen them take the heart out of young lambs with but a single bite. Is it any wonder I have come to hate the coyote?

I have shot quite a number, and got many dens with as high as eight coyote pups. The district I have lived in, from Camrose southeast, along Dried Meat Lake and the Battle River, has been well settled for over forty years.

I say no, the coyote is not being driven back, and will no doubt be a nuisance to sheep raisers for another forty years. Many small flock owners have been driven out of raising them by the coyote, in the last ten years. Had it not been by having quite a large flock and employing a herder, I would have been forced out long ago.

The coyote is a constant worry to the sheep raiser night and day.

I have seen coyotes in the city limits of Edmonton, and they have also been known to kill lambs in Edmonton city limits during the last ten years.

I say no, the coyote is not being driven back by settlement, and sharp-shooting hunters, and I believe will be a menace to sheep raisers for years to come.

Arnold C. Anderson.

Victoria, B.C.

**Poisoning Rats**

To the Editor:

As regards Mr. Trego's letter on poisoning rats, I would like to cite one experience. Nine years ago I worked part of the summer on a farm where they had some rats. A popular brand of poison was set out one night, and it got quite a lot of them, but not enough poison was put out and quite a few remained. These remaining ones could never be induced to take the poison in spite of all the different ways that were tried to camouflage it.

Just a few more things for those not familiar with rats. Cats are very good, but if a cat kills too many rats the cat dies.

Safety and a steady food supply close together is about all that rats require. Hence a pig barn with a wooden floor that they can burrow under is ideal for them. If the holes in the floor are not big enough they can soon fix that.

The next best thing to a good foundation for a building is to have it five or more inches off the ground. Rats do not like that; it is too open for them.

Emil Epp.

Carrot River, Sask.

# HERE'S to YOUR HEALTH!

## King George's Foot

WHAT ails King George VI? All public engagements would be cancelled "over a period of some months." The official bulletins had been medically vague. But it was learned that the King suffers from a variation of Buerger's disease, mostly affecting his right foot. Other more frightening names for it: presenile gangrene, thrombo-angitis obliterans.

The trouble begins when inflammation in the arteries or veins slows or shuts down circulation of the blood; ulcers develop — or, in severe cases, gangrene. The disease usually affects arteries near the body's surface, more often in the legs than in the arms. The King also suffers from hardening of the arteries, a combination said by U.S. doctors to be fairly unusual.

The King's illness, certainly not trivial, has been developing for many months, but he did not consult any of the palace doctors until about ten days before the birth of Princess Elizabeth's son. First symptoms are usually tired legs and cold feet; he has probably been suffering from these symptoms for some time, but blamed too much walking or standing. On Nov. 6 he did a lot of cross-country walking while hunting at Windsor; that night, after attending a British Legion Remembrance Festival, he complained that his right foot bothered him, but the next day he stood in the rain during a Remembrance Day service. Since he took over the throne his brother abdicated twelve years ago, the nervous, shy, self-effacing King has probably changed uniforms more often, shaken more hands, listened to more speeches, and laid more wreaths than any other chief of state in modern times.

The King's doctors believe they have caught the illness at an early stage. He is up and around Buckingham Palace every day, limping slightly but not using a cane or crutch; usually he rests his foot on a pillow while working. Main medical treatment is described as an electric apparatus (which stimulates circulation), fitted around the thigh. Other possible treatments: rest in bed if there is pain; hot and cold baths; heat; drugs that dilate the arteries; a nerve-cutting operation.

The cause of Buerger's disease is unknown. Many, but not all, patients are cigarette smokers (smoking constricts the small arteries). The King's doctors are reported to have ordered him to stop his heavy smoking. Most patients with Buerger's disease also

## Mental Health

Mental illness, with its many types and gradations, is not something that can be pinpointed like diphtheria or a broken leg. In fact, the behavior of the mentally ill is only an exaggeration of normal mental mechanisms. They differ from the rest of us only in degree, not in kind. The vast majority of mentally ill persons, the psychoneurotics, are victims of a series of emotional upsets and quite likely victims of faulty childhood training as well and need sympathetic understanding and competent clinical treatment to help them back to mental health.

## The Best Is Free

Not so many years ago more than half the children who suffered from diphtheria died in spite of treatment. The death rate often reached as high as 80 per cent. Whooping cough has been a deadly foe of the baby for years. These dangers have been largely overcome by diseases yet discovered. Immunization is free.

gnosis and treatment are essential. Cancer can usually be cured with the aid of surgery, X-rays or radium — provided it is caught in its early stages. It is important for a person who suspects he may have cancer to see a doctor at once.

## Nutritious Nuisance

Dandelions have their nuisance value, but they have a nutritional value as well. They are high in vitamin A, vitamin C and iron. Dandelion greens are delicious when prepared properly. They should be washed thoroughly and boiled from five to 10 minutes in salted water. The proper mixture is one-half teaspoon of salt to a pint of water. Fresh beet greens and turnip tops can be cooked and used in the same way.

## Fighting Fear of Cancer

One of the worst features of cancer is the fear it instils into people. This fear, which in itself is harmful, often holds a man from going to see a doctor when he feels vaguely that something is wrong with him. In cancer, as in many other diseases, early dia-

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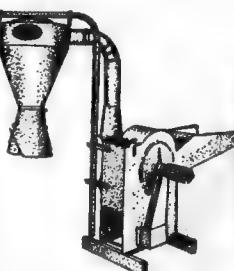
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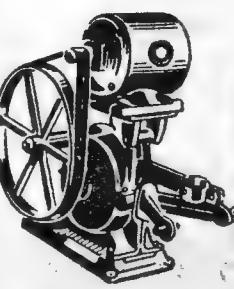
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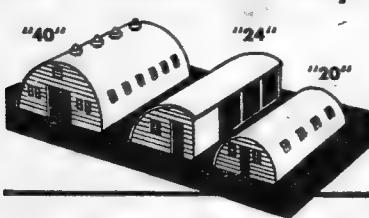
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## 50 Municipalities To Organize Against 1949 Grasshopper Threat

WINNIPEG: — An all-out campaign against the 1949 grasshopper plague which threatens some 50 Manitoba municipalities is under way. About 180 delegates from the municipalities met officials of the provincial and Dominion governments. Approximately 10,000 farms, involving more than a million and a half acres, will organize to meet the threat with the support and co-operation of the provincial government and municipalities.

In charge of grasshopper control for the Manitoba Department of Agriculture, H. E. Wood described the use of two new chemicals — Chlordane and chlordanated camphene — as sprays. Both chemicals were found to be effective against grasshoppers in Saskatchewan last summer, Mr. Wood said, and tests made in Manitoba this year with chlordane prove it much superior to the poison bait previously used. "It has been found that vegetation sprayed with the chemical will poison the grasshoppers for a week or longer regardless of weather conditions," Mr. Wood pointed out.

The spraying is to be done in the spring, preferably before the hoppers leave egg beds or as they move into the edge of the crops, Mr. Wood explained. Cost of the campaign will be shared by the municipalities, the province and the farmer. According to the plan agreed upon at the meeting, the provincial government will provide the new chemical killer; the municipalities will appoint local supervisors and make the actual application of the chemical and provide the equipment; while the farmer will pay for roughly one-third of the cost of treating headlands, fence lines, egg-beds in pastures and edges of fields. The farmer will be responsible for applying the chemical himself where a whole field requires treatment. He will not be assessed for spraying done on road allowances.

### Clean Ventilating Shafts

C. W. Traves, Poultry Commissioner, Alberta Department of Agriculture, says that the ventilating shafts or flues in many poultry houses do not work because they are badly plugged with cobwebs and dust. When the cold weather arrives this foreign material collects moisture and frost

and it is not long until the shafts are completely stopped.

To clean the shafts take a piece of rope about twice the length of the shafts. In the centre tie enough sacks to fill the shaft snugly. With one person on the roof and another in the poultry house pull the sacks up and down a few times. You will be surprised at the amount of dirt removed. The shafts should be cleaned out at least twice each year.

### Fertilizers For Forty-Nine

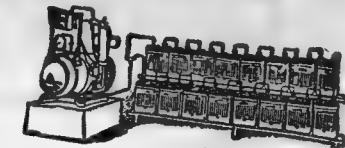
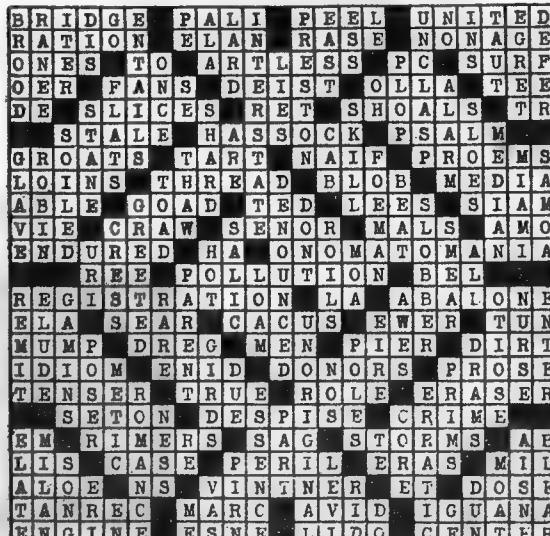
THE use of commercial fertilizers is an accepted part of the irrigated farm program. Sugar beets are always seeded with fertilizer, as also very often are canning corn and peas. The wise irrigation farmer also broadcasts phosphate fertilizer on his alfalfa fields when the yields show indications of falling below normal, or dandelions begin replacing the alfalfa, unless the alfalfa is failing because of bacterial wilt.

Under dry land farming conditions, the response from fertilizer vary. The results of fertilizer tests on wheat in southern Alberta in 1948, as in 1947, indicate little response in south-eastern Alberta, but fair to good response in the south-west.

The most consistent responses from fertilizers have been obtained on the black soils in the western part of the district. Aside from the increase in yields of cereal crops, the earlier maturity is of vital importance in this area. For example, with the late spring of 1948, many fields in the foothills area were damaged by frost. In one case under test, the wheat from a check (unfertilized) strip in a fertilized field was lower in yield and two pounds per bushel lighter in weight. On fertilized hay plots in this same area, increases in yields of up to 24 per cent were obtained in 1948.

Where a farmer plans to use fertilizer in 1949, it will be a wise policy to obtain the fertilizer and the fertilizer attachment, if required, early in the winter to avoid possible disappointment in the spring, as has happened in the past few years because of deficient supplies. — (Lethbridge.)

### Solution to Last Month's Puzzle



## DELCO LIGHT PLANTS AND BATTERIES

All sizes available in New and Used Plants.

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Limited  
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## Skinny men, women gain 5, 10, 15 lbs.

Get New Pep, Vim, Vigor

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Upset Stomach  
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Nervousness  
Gas and Bloat  
Loss of Sleep  
and Appetite  
when  
caused by  
Constipation

Get Forni's  
Alpenkräuter—



the time proved  
laxative and stomachic-tonic medi-  
cine. Contains 18  
of Nature's own  
medicinal roots,  
herbs and botanicals. Use as directed.  
Gently and smoothly Alpenkräuter  
puts sluggish bowels to work and aids  
them to eliminate clogging waste;  
helps expel constipation's gas, gives  
the stomach that comforting feeling of  
warmth. Be wise—for prompt, pleasant,  
proven relief from constipation's  
miseries—get Alpenkräuter today in  
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Enclosed is \$1.00. Send me postpaid regular 11 oz. bottle of ALPENKRAUTER.

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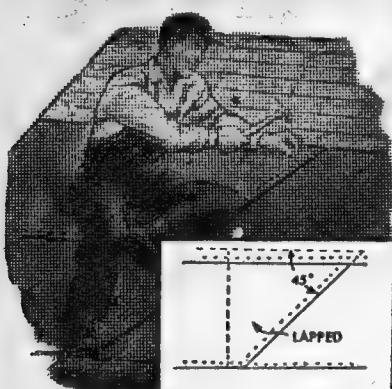
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# Friendly Devices

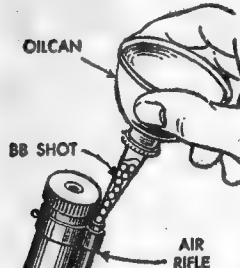
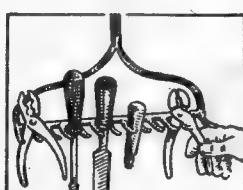
By Courtesy of the "Popular Mechanics Magazine"  
INSTALLING ROLL-TYPE ROOFING TO PREVENT LEAKAGE



A ROOF that leaked considerably during a driving rain prompted one man to devise a way of fastening roll-type roofing which he found to be completely waterproof. When lapping the joints, he cut the end of the roll at a 45-deg. angle and fastened the roofing in the regular manner, lapping the lower edge of the strip about 8 in. In this way, the water flows freely over the joints and there is no chance of its seeping between them. The angle joint also can be used when applying a patch or when finishing a job with small pieces of roofing.

## GARDEN RAKE MAKES TOOL RACK

THE metal head from a broken garden rake provides a handy rack for small tools in the basement workshop or garage. Just remove the broken handle and hang the head from a nail driven into a stud or wall. Screwdrivers, chisels, pliers, etc., fit nicely between the teeth.

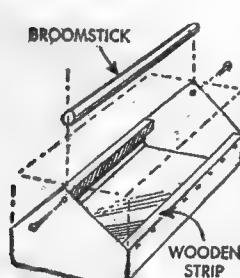
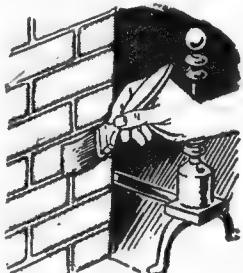


## OILCAN LOADS AIR RIFLE

REPEATING air rifles are loaded quickly and easily by using an oilcan to insert the shot in the small, tubular magazine. To modify the can for this purpose, remove the spout and drop a pellet into it. Then, with a wire, measure the distance the shot has lodged from the end of the spout, and saw off the tip of the spout slightly above the place where the pellet stopped. After this, remove the burr caused by the saw. To load the rifle, just fill the oilcan with BB shot, replace the spout and feed the pellets into the magazine from the tip of the spout. This not only saves time, but reduces the chance of spilling the shot.

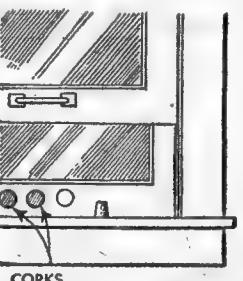
## KEEPING BRICK FIREPLACES CLEAN

A BRICK fireplace is easier to keep clean if its front is coated with liquid wax. The wax gives the bricks a slight gloss and a comparatively smooth finish, filling the porous surface in which dust usually accumulates. In this way, soot and dust are less likely to collect and any that does can be wiped off quickly. A small brush makes a handy applicator.



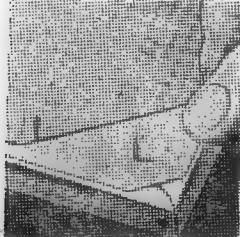
## PORTRABLE POULTRY FEEDER

AN inexpensive poultry feeder can be made easily from a rectangular-shaped 5-gal. can, utilizing a piece of broomstick for a handle. The feeder is cut from the can, as shown, and each side is nailed to a strip of wood which runs the length of the can. This not only eliminates sharp edges which might injure the chickens, but also forms a lip reducing the amount of feed scattered about during feeding. Wood screws, driven through an oversize hole in each end of the can, hold the broomstick handle in place. This should be fastened loosely so it will rotate to prevent the chickens from roosting on it. Sharp edges on the ends of the feeder should be smoothed before using.



## CORK-PLUGGED VENTS IN STORM SASH REGULATE AMOUNT OF AIR

IF your storm sash are without ventilators, and turn buttons prevent swinging the window open at the bottom, a simple method of installing vents in each sash is to bore three or more large holes through the sash at the bottom. Then by fitting corks in the holes, it is easy to regulate the amount of air as desired by inserting or removing the corks.



## THUMBTACKS KEEP PICTURE LEVEL

TAPING a thumbtack to each of the bottom corners of a picture frame will keep it from tilting due to vibration. After the frame has been properly positioned, the thumbtacks are pressed lightly into the wall. If this is done carefully, the tacks will not leave noticeable marks on the wall surface.

# Royal Bank Figures

## At All-Time High

New records set in field of Canadian banking — Assets reach new high of \$2,222,487,786 — Deposits exceed \$2,000,000,000 for first time in bank's history — Loans increase — Profits moderately higher.

NEW high records in the field of liquid position of the bank continues very strong, the percentage of liquid assets to public liabilities being 74.03.

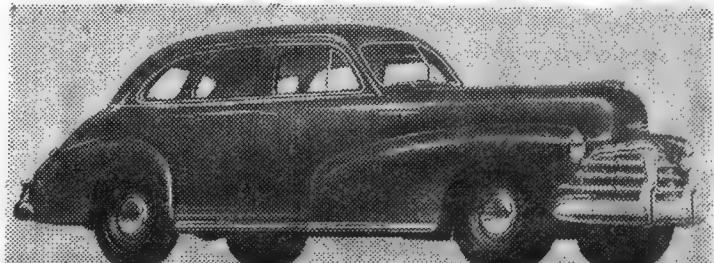
As a result of the increase in the volume of business, profits are moderately higher. After the usual deductions for staff pension fund and contingency reserves, profits amount to \$9,517,433 as compared with \$8,724,519 the previous year. Of this amount \$3,150,000 has been set aside for Dominion and Provincial taxes, an increase of \$300,000; in addition \$808,887 has been provided for depreciation of bank premises, leaving a net profit of \$5,558,546. This compares with \$4,981,832 in 1947. Out of net profits \$3,500,000 was paid in dividends and \$2,058,546 carried forward to surplus, resulting in a balance of \$5,532,792 in this account. From this amount \$4,000,000 has been transferred to the Reserve Fund, which brings the latter up to \$44,000,000, leaving a balance of \$1,532,792 carried forward.

The Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the bank on Thursday, January 13th, at 11 a.m.

YOU GET QUICK RESULTS FROM FARM AND RANCH ADS.

## Would YOU Like A NEW

1948 Fleetmaster Chevrolet Sedan For \$1.00?



The holder of one of the tickets for the Dance will be given the chance to purchase this car for the sum of \$1.00.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND THE DANCE TO WIN

**HQ 3 SQUADRON SIGNALS**  
(RESERVE FORCES)

AND

**The Calgary Municipal Chapter I.O.D.E.**

Will Hold A

**DANCE**

At Mewata Armories, Friday, February 18, 1949  
**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

### COUPON

MUNICIPAL CHAPTER I.O.D.E.,  
Box No. 2000,  
Farm and Ranch Review,  
Calgary, Alberta.

Please Send \_\_\_\_\_ Dance Ticket to \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Get a New Car**

**REMEMBER!**

**You Don't Have To  
Attend The Dance To  
Win.**



# The Farm and Ranch HOUSEWIFE

## Homecraft Rugs Add Warmth To the Hearth and Home

Thrifty Housewives Can Make Many Types To Suit the Farm and Ranch.

By ANN BARRETT

ENCOURAGEMENT of interests along the lines of craftwork for the home sometimes can be traced back to the development of some former pastime occupation, which will develop into an interesting and productive hobby. And when winter winds whistle across the fields and the snows bury the land under their white blanket, it is just the right season for the farm or ranch women to haul out the bundle of bright-colored rags, with the strong piece of canvas or sacking to stretch over the wooden frame, and to sketch in some detailed design, and then patiently start to hook the colored rags through the sacking.

Leisure hours can prove most fascinating and profitable when we keep occupied in expressing original ideas into making useful articles for the home, and there is much satisfaction derived from the art of rug-making, as the process of handling material and tools is very simple. Just to watch a pattern grow into an exquisite mat is bewitching, and when the rug is completed, it lends such charm and warmth to scatter on the scrubbed wooden floors!

### Easy-To-Make Rugs

Among the simpler types of rugs to be made, there are the ones known as shaggy, or fluffy rugs, tongue, button or patchwork, which are made by sewing or stitching the material on a cloth base, either by hand, or on the sewing machine. Burlap or other coarse material, such as heavy cloth, canvas, ticking or bagging, makes a good base for a foundation. Although this type of rug does not wear as well as the hooked type, however, they are very suitable for use where quality is not important.

### Applique Rugs

Thrifty housewives who have kept on hand, pieces of coats, heavy dress material or suitings, will be able to utilize these pieces in a Tongue, Button and Applique rug, and may use colored embroidery floss or yarn to finish the edges of each "tongue" or "button". The blanket or buttonhole stitch is very popular.

First, cut the wool cloth in uniform-size piece, such as 3 by 4 inches or in circles 5, 3 and 1 inches in diameter. Blanket-stitch around the edges of the cloth pieces to keep them from fraying. Sew the pieces to the foundation material, which has been hemmed. These oblong pieces are arranged so that they overlap and entirely cover the rug.

When making "button" rugs, the largest round pieces are used to cover the foundation somewhat like patchwork and the small ones sewed on top the centre of each large one. This way of utilizing small pieces of material is only suitable to small rugs, as cleaning them is somewhat difficult. The money expended is very small as only thread has to be purchased. They make a neat fireside or bedside rug.

### Sewed Fringe Rug

To make a "sewed Fringe Rug" use burlap bagging or coarse cotton fabric that ravelles easily. Cut the strips of burlap, fray out the edges, fold lengthwise in the centre, and sew together

round and round, to make a rug with the fringe edges up. This type of rug is suitable for use as a porch doormat. Its best use is for wiping muddy boots, and when it becomes too full of dirt to be shaken out, it had best be thrown away in the ash can.

### Braided Rugs

One of our readers from Innisfail, who delights in handicrafts has made several attractive Braided Rugs, and the following description and practical instruction will be a help to beginners:

No loom is required for this type of rug. They can be made with the help of scissors, safety pins, knitting or large sewing needles, and a table. Material should be cut in strips of even width, and thickness to get best results, about 1 to 6 inches wide, depending on its weight and the effect desired in the rug. For heavy material cut 2½ inches wide, for medium material 3 inches wide, and thin material 6 inches wide. Fold ½ inch for all of these materials.

Cut all material on the straight of the goods, lengthwise, as far as practical, since warp threads are generally stronger than weft threads. A stronger and more even rug results from strips cut in this way. Strips of 1 to 1½ yards are the most desirable lengths to handle, and after they are cut they should be folded and pressed so that all edges are turned in and will not ravel.

When all materials and necessary tools have been assembled, such as the prepared strips of cloth, a spool of buttonhole or No. 20 Cotton Thread or No. 8 Linen Thread, a large needle for sewing the braids and a smaller needle and suitable thread for splicing the strips, a dozen or more pins, including a few safety pins, and scissors,

all is ready to begin this fascinating work.

### Easy-To-Make

Pin the ends of three or more strips of material together, or attach them to some stationary object and braid. Starting with the left-hand strand, put No. 1 strand over No. 2, the one next to it, and under No. 3. If more strands are used, it then goes over No. 4 and under No. 5. After one has learned to braid in this way, she will gradually acquire the ability to braid from both sides.

When you reach a point near the end of a strip, add another by opening the fold, cutting a true bias in each end, and making a smooth, flat seam, thus joining the end to the original strip. The first braid made is the centre one and it should be as long as the difference between what the finished length is over the finished width of the rug. That is, a rug which is to be 36 x 24 inches should have a centre braid of 12 inches.

In making an oval rug, a good way to make a turn at the centre length is to ease the braiding around so that it will return alongside it without cupping. This is done by pulling the inner strand a little at the turn and stretching the outer one. As soon as the opposite end is reached, the ends of the braid should be pinned in place and the parallel lengths sewed or laced together.

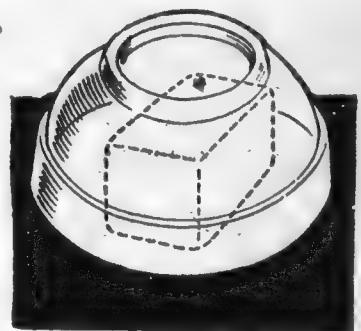
Sew with a blind stitch or slip stitch so that stitches will be invisible from either side. If the rug is sewed while it is flat on a table it will keep its shape better. When this side has been sewed, braid to the next turn and sew and it is advisable to sew and braid short stretches alternately in order to fit the braids together without cupping.

### Finish-Off

An oval rug, like all others, should have the same number of rows of braiding on each side of the centre and on each end when finished, therefore, the centre of the rug should be marked while working.

When the rug has reached the desired size, check to see that the same number of braids are on each side of

it. Then cut the braid at the oval curve of the rug, slip the braid ends under the last row of braiding, and draw into shape so the two oval ends of the rug match. Fasten lightly and trim off extra material so they are of uneven length in order to end at different points. Then fasten securely, sewing over and over the edges of the rug and the ends of the strands. This is the way to finish a rug braided spirally, which is the easiest way to make a braided rug.



### SOFTENING BUTTER

SOFTENING butter taken from the refrigerator, above, can be done quickly and without waste due to melting if a bowl is heated and then placed over the butter for a short time.

## VINE PEACH

EASY TO GROW — RIPE FRUIT IN 80 DAYS



coffee?

Oh yes!  
BLUE  
RIBBON

For Quality — Ask for  
BLUE RIBBON

BLUE RIBBON COFFEE  
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA



## SAVE money MAKE soap with GILLETT'S LYE

• A wonderful way to give the budget a boost—and have the grandest household soap you ever saw. A tin of Gillett's Lye and your leftover cooking grease will make you 12 to 15 pounds of soap—big, plump bars at less than 1¢ each. And in only 20 minutes' time!

Gillett's performs a dozen other household duties too, clears clogged drains and traps, dissolves grease and grime from pots and pans. Half a tin once a week in the outhouse keeps it clean and fresh-smelling. The men-folks find Gillett's mighty handy — 1 tin makes 10 gallons of deodorizing and sterilizing solution\* for cleaning barn and milkhouse. Get a couple of tins today.

\*Never dissolve lye in hot water. The action of the lye itself heats the water.

## Let's have a spaghetti dinner

By MARY STEVENS

THE Yuletide has been packed away into a neat little box of wonderful memories . . . the cold winter nights seem colder than before . . . and even the favorite radio programs sound dull and uninteresting . . . with the patterns of humor all stereotyped. And what to do about this humdrum state of affairs . . . other than giving a dinner party.

Personally, we can't think of anything we'd rather do than give a party. Cold weather calls for savory food . . . savory food means a Latin dish . . . and a Latin dish means MEAT BALLS AND SPAGHETTI!

Of course it does! Flavorful . . . odorful . . . eatable . . . Mmmmmmm!

Well, that seems to be the answer to the menu . . . and we'll give you our favorite recipe in a minute. Only, after deciding on WHAT to cook, it's about time to consider the atmosphere in which to serve the food. We do it this way . . .

Buffet style is easiest. The men folks may crab, but if the hostess likes spaghetti (as we do), it seems fair she should have a chance at it too. Hence, buffet style.

Use the dining room table from which to serve. Cover it with a brightly-colored cloth . . . and the food is all the decoration you need. For the guests, set up card tables, each covered with a peasant-design cloth. For light, lend atmosphere with candles. One candle to a table, with an oddly-shaped bottle for a holder. If you've time, drip candle wax down the sides of the bottles . . . different colors of wax dripped one on top of the other give an "arty" approach to the whole thing and somehow seem to blend in with the menu. We don't know why, but it does!

So . . . you have the atmosphere, the menu . . . and now you need some 12 congenial guests just to keep things in a lively mood. Twelve guests, you say. But of course . . . The more, the merrier! And with an informal dinner like we're having you can ALWAYS get help with the dishes!

Now put on your bonnet and shawl and let's go shopping. We're giving you the recipe as WE do it . . . which is not a bit conventional, but the food turns out all right . . . so why worry about conventions?

You'll need three pounds of ground round steak, a bunch of parsley, celery leaves, garlic, onions, two cans of tomatoes, two cans of tomato paste, cracker crumbs, two eggs, lettuce, vinegar, French bread, and a pound of Parmesan cheese.

Start your spaghetti sauce several hours before dinner-time. And here's how you make it. Chop one large onion finely, six toes of garlic and half the parsley. Brown all in a little olive oil. Add the tomatoes and tomato paste and let simmer gently. We use an iron Dutch oven for the sauce . . . seems to make it better . . . we don't know why about that, either.

For the meat balls . . . mix together the meat, a half cup of the Parmesan cheese grated, a cup of cracker crumbs, four toes of chopped garlic, one large onion chopped, the rest of the parsley and the celery leaves chopped, and the two eggs. Believe me, that's a mixture. Nevertheless, let's continue. Mold the meat mixture into balls about one inch in diameter and brown them in olive oil. When the meat balls are nice and brown, lift them carefully into your tomato sauce, and let the whole simmer about two hours. If the sauce gets too thick, add a little water. And, of course, salt and pepper to taste.

Now that you've the sauce and meat balls off your mind for a while, prepare the lettuce by letting it soak in just a little water and plenty of

ice cubes. We need it crisp! And for the garlic bread . . . an item we've just sneaked into this party . . . you can get ready for that, too. Chop about ten toes of garlic as finely as possible and mix them in a cup of butter. With twelve guests or so, you'll need a LOT of garlic bread. And while you're preparing things ahead of time, you might as well grate the rest of the Parmesan cheese, too.

After you've welcomed the guests and put the spaghetti on to boil, prepare the salad. Shred the lettuce, and pour a little olive oil and vinegar over it . . . enough to thoroughly coat all the leaves. Add salt and pepper, and that's the salad.

Now for the garlic bread. Split the French loaves lengthwise, and spread the garlic-butter mixture onto the cut side. Use plenty. Then pop the slabs into the grill and brown . . . by the time the bread is toasted, the butter and garlic will have soaked thoroughly into the loaf. This should be served piping hot.

When the spaghetti itself is cooked, fill each individual plate. Spoon the tomato sauce on top of the spaghetti . . . add two or three meat balls to the side of the plate . . . sprinkle the whole lightly with the grated Parmesan cheese. That's what you do for the first round. For the second and third rounds, it's every man for himself!

□ □ □

Celery leaves can also be used, by drying them until crisp, then crushing into powder to make a good curry salt for seasoning soups and stews.

### Peacock Parade



813

Laura Wheeler

SIX proud and stately birds to make your linens more beautiful! Two each of three stunning motifs in easy stitchery and vivid color!

Join the proud owners of peacock linens! Pattern 813; transfer of 6 motifs 3 1/2 x 6 1/2 to 6 x 12 inches.

Send TWENTY-FIVE CENTS in coins (stamps cannot be accepted) for each pattern to Farm and Ranch Review, Needlecraft Dept., Calgary, Alta. Print plainly PATTERN NUMBER, your NAME and ADDRESS.

## Aunt Sal Suggests

Although we trust this by and new year, comes laden down with good cheer;

We know there'll still be work to do, so here's some handy hints for you.

WHO was it I wonder who started the fad of making resolutions on New Year's Day? I presume it's a good idea . . . but it would be a better one if it worked! Speaking for myself, of course, there never came a January but I threw myself whole heartedly into this practice of making out an impressive list of resolutions. Yet the ink had scarcely dried on the list before I started in breaking them. But even in the breaking of them I strove for system . . . for I'd check off, one by one, each broken item on the page. As the month advanced, how the number of "checks" showed up! Just this very day while cleaning out some boxes of treasures of long ago I ran across one of these lists and I marvelled at the optimism of youth that anyone in their right senses could hope to keep all those resolutions. And that was the day-before the super-man series had come into being, too.

We're often urged to hitch our wagons to a star. But I think we can so easily overdo that sort of thing. If we'd all pattern our resolutions somewhat on the creed of the Boy Scouts and strive after one good deed per day, we might get some where with our self-improvements.

Readers of the FARM AND RANCH REVIEW are often urged to write letters to the editors suggesting what things they'd like to see changed about this magazine. As writer of this page I'd like to raise my voice in invitation and say, "Please write me, too, and tell me what you like . . . and do not like . . . about Aunt Sal's suggestions."

During the past year I have received letters from interested (and interesting) women living in the four western provinces, who have taken time out from their busy days to let me know that this page does mean a lot to them. They've asked for new recipes and in exchange have given of theirs. That's what I call the true western spirit of co-operation.

From one of these kind writers came the idea of adding a few drops of butter coloring to her gold cake. And as we might surmise it was "goldier" than ever. I tried out this idea in drop cookies, too, and the yellow tone so added, certainly made them as cheerful as sunshine.

While speaking of co-operation, there's one custom that I think demonstrates a fine neighborly exchange . . . and that is for any church or club group to compile a cook book of real tried-out recipes of its members. One of that nature that came to my desk this past week was named the Jubilee Cook Book, and it was put out by St. Andrew's United Church of Rossland, B.C.

Because my husband has two sisters living in Rossland, I have this intimate reason for being interested in this little city snuggled in the Rockies, but after leafing through the pages of this 88 page cook book I couldn't help thinking that housewives like about the same type of recipes . . . whether they live in the mountains or on the prairies.

The day I received this new cook book I had a great yearning for some new cookies with dates in them. In fact, the only dried fruit I had on hand were dates and cocoanut. (Does your

pantry get into the doldrums too sometimes?) Exactly half way through the book I found a recipe named JUMBLES, contributed by Mrs. Cyril Bacon . . . and if she isn't English, then I'm the world's poorest guesser. This is the fine recipe that I highly recommend for a quick, easy-to-make drop cookie. I made 50 from this recipe. It goes like this:

1/2 cup shortening  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1 cup flour  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 tsp. baking soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 cups flour  
1 cup walnuts (I used cocoanut instead)  
1 cup dates

Mix them in order given. Mrs. Bacon advised a little milk. But I didn't use any in mine. I find it generally makes my cookies tough. Bake in moderately hot oven 15 minutes.

There was one page in this book devoted to household hints that were very good. The only one I hadn't tried was this: "When washing white paint, add 1 tablespoonful of epsom salts to each quart of warm water. This keeps the paint white." Seeing my whole house has white painted woodwork I always have some of it demanding cleaning, so I was pleased to try out this good hint.

Congratulations, Rossland ladies, on your fine booklet. It will keep a place for itself among my cook-book friends. The members of District 4 Women's Institute in Southern Alberta have compiled a cook book, too, but at date of writing this, I haven't received my copy, so I can't comment on it yet. If any of the rest of you belong to groups that have combined to print a cook book this past year, I'd be so happy if you would write me about it . . . I'm very interested!

Several requests came to me for the recipe of GUMDROP CAKE. Have you ever heard of such a concoction? I got my recipe from the late Ethelwyn Hobbes who was known and beloved by thousands across Canada by her delightful radio talks. To me it will always be known as Mrs. Hobbes' Cake:

1/2 cup butter cream with 1 cup white sugar  
Add 2 beaten eggs  
Add 3/4 cups milk alternately with these dry ingredients that have been sifted together twice  
2 cups cake flour  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1 tsp. baking powder

Cut up one pound of gumdrops with scissors and mix with 3/4 lb. of raisins. Lightly flour these two and add to cake batter. Bake one hour in paper lined loaf pan. Moderate temperature. Bye bye for now . . . and every good wish.

AUNT SAL.

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## Country Diary

NATURE, who knows no count of man-numbered years, or man-named months, has once again completed her cycle of infinity. Another follows, and we enter a new period of time marked 1949, each of us ferring ahead into an unknown future.

nobody above you, nobody below you, and no thin partitions, no over-looking windows, a home that is really private and truly your own, why then you're surely on the way to real happiness. That's all I ask for anyway. That's what I say, too!

Average mankind makes a lot in a materialistic way, anou' a New Year. In any city the moments of the zero hour are ushered in with blare of screaming sirens, the careless blowing of whistles and cheap tin horns, feasting and drinking under bright lights, singing of meaningless songs. To some the last moments of the year are hushed with memory of those no longer here, whose lives were given that peace might come to stay; and who silently pledge to the utmost of their power to bring about that fulfillment. A New Year is always worth a new effort from everyone.

This is something a city dweller said to me recently: "As conditions are today, when you've counted up all the disadvantages of living wherever you happen to be — the family that has a roof over its head, anywhere, is still the lucky family. And when you've got a place all to yourself, with

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There are people who do quite an amount of gardening after retiring for the night in winter. They say that dreams of summer gardens induce quiet sleep, a cure for insomnia sufferers, though to tell the truth, I don't know of any such among my hard-working neighbors. However, I do know that it is soothing to make my summer garden pictures in the fire-light, stretched at ease, happy in the glowing warmth from the big heater's transparency, watching the dancing shadows on the darkened walls. So I think about what I will do in May while the January wind howls about the walls and windows and shrieks through the key-holes. Once you have envisioned the lovely scene you see yourself walking in it, enjoying the floral radiance and perfume. I'd like to be able to record that my winter dreams of a summer garden were realized.

Firelight and warmth, cocoa and

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### When You Measure Yourself

By TERESA RUPPELDT

GIRLS who try their hand at making their own clothes often experience trouble in measuring themselves. Even if you do not know, you can measure yourself in a few minutes without the need for outside help.

To measure yourself correctly always work before a mirror, and be sure to have a strap or tape drawn tightly around the waist to measure to and from.

For guidance in making special measurements, proceed as follows:

When making neck measurements, for example, do not run the tape around the thickest part, as so many girls do when taking their inches for jumpers, dance dresses, coats, and the like. Instead, measure around the thinnest part. And be sure you stand erect as you apply the tape.

Bust measurements, to be exact and ensure garments fitting correctly, may be accomplished in only one way, that is, by passing the tape underneath arms, all around bust fullness. In adjusting the tape, do not allow the body to droop.

For waist measurements, measure tightly around waist, body held erect, with lungs extended exactly to normal capacity.

In taking hip measurements, assume a normal pose of the body as you stand before your mirror, then pass the tape over hip bones — all around.

Arm-holes are usually a bugbear to measure, judging by the "fit" many girls acquire in their home-made garments. Yet this need not be. The only safe rule is to keep the tape well under arms, let touch shoulder point bone. This should then be taken tightly.

To correctly determine front lengths, measure from bone at back of neck to waist in front. See that the tape is not twisted or over-stretched, nor yet allowed to hang loosely when taking this measurement.

To determine the back length, measure from same bone point straight down back to waist. The same rule as to the tape should also be observed here.

Under-arm measurements should begin with the tape from hollow — under arm — to waist. Once the end of the tape is adjusted in position you

can keep it in place by slightly closing the arm with the hand held out a little in front.

Sleeve measurements are not nearly so difficult to determine as may be supposed. The safe rule is: outside, shoulder bone to wrist — around elbow, bended. Inside: from hollow of front arm to waist.

To measure a skirt, proceed with front, then back, then side. Just pin the start of the tape to the material, then draw the tape up with your hand, running your thumb down to the required distance. Do the same with back and sides, of course.

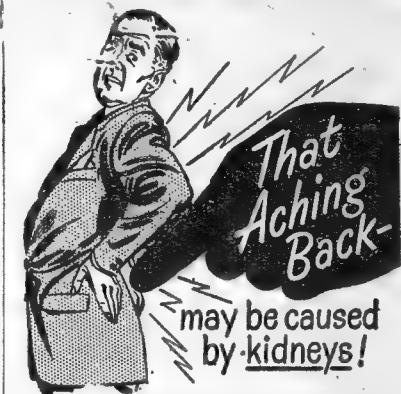
### The Dishpan Philosopher

Well, well, it really would appear we've started on a brand new year. My calendar declares it's so — without it I would hardly know. For this year I'll just have to do the things I did all last year through. The same old doleful draggy grind! But maybe not! I've half a mind to down my tools and start a strike for running water and the like. And new linoleum and paint — my floors would aggravate a saint! My stove, too, has seen better days! Dear me, there are so many ways I'd like to fix things up round here and give myself a good New Year.

But that means money! And the sock is pretty empty, and the stock consists, it seems, of sacred cows whose sole NO circumstance allows. So please, New Year, go flap your wings — I'll wait and see what NEXT year brings.

cookies inside for January night. Outside, old Orion wearing his studded belt and sword, strides from the east, with Sirius following close behind. High overhead, those legendary maids, in dove-like form, the Pleiads, play along the Milky Way.

Goodnight, and a Happy New Year!



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## SAVE THAT BREAD! or BREAD CRUMB USES

By LAURA PRICE BELL

THESE are days when every single scrap of food must be put to some use in our homes. No longer can sandwiches be trimmed of their crusts and the resultant strips be tossed into the "garbage pail." Left-over toast, "heels" of bread, dried-out rolls and the like all must be utilized. And this is not difficult to do, once you become familiar with the many uses for bread crumbs.

Be sure to *thoroughly* dry all left-over bread by putting it in a pan in the oven after the heat has been turned off following a baking. Then grind through food-grinder, or roll fine with rolling-pin until all crumbs are very fine.

We are all familiar with some uses of bread crumbs: as covering for croquettes and cutlets, as "filler" for meat-loaves, to stuff green peppers, as layers between apples to make a "Brown Betty." But here are some recipes which will help you use up many more bread crumbs than those dishes . . . and all the recipes are pretty sure to please you! There's that extra satisfaction, too, of knowing you are actually saving on other ingredients when using bread crumbs which otherwise might be classified as wasted.

### Crumb Macaroons

1 cup fine bread crumbs  
1 cup sugar  
1/4 tsp. salt  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 cup chopped nuts

Mix crumbs, sugar, salt and nuts. Beat eggs well, add vanilla, and drop with teaspoon on a well-greased cookie-sheet. Bake in 350° F. oven for 15 minutes, or until macaroons are light brown. Remove from tin at once as they crisp when cooling. 30 cookies.

### Cheese Delight

3/4 cup hot milk  
3/4 cup fine bread crumbs  
2 eggs — beaten separately  
1/3 lb. grated strong cheese  
1/2 tsp. salt

Mix hot milk and crumbs, then the beaten egg yolks, grated cheese and salt. Mix well, fold in stiffly beaten egg-whites. Pour into oiled casserole or baking dish and bake 30 minutes in a 350° F. oven. Spoon out on to plates and garnish with a spoonful of tomato sauce (condensed tomato soup is fine for this), and a sprig of parsley. Serves 4. (This may also be baked in oiled custard cups and served individually.)

### Stuffed Hamburger

2 lbs. hamburger  
1 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. pepper  
1 egg

Mix these ingredients well, press mixture to a depth of one inch in greased baking cups, then add a layer of stuffing, cover with remaining meat mixture. Set cups in pan of water and bake in 350° F. oven for 45 minutes. Eight individual servings. (Tomato sauce is good with these.)

### Stuffing

2 cups fine bread crumbs  
2 tbsps. minced onion  
1/4 cup melted fat  
1 tsp. poultry seasoning  
1 tsp. salt  
2 tbsps. hot water

Combine ingredients in order; mix well.

### Stuffed Cabbage

Drop large cabbage leaves in boiling water for 5 minutes. Shape stuffing

into cylinders or small loaves and wrap in cabbage leaves, fastening leaves in place with toothpicks and placing cabbage rolls in Dutch oven with 3 tbsps. drippings. Brown on all sides, add enough water to cover rolls, cover loosely and simmer 1 hour. Remove to platter, garnish with bacon-curls and thicken gravy in kettle for gravy to pour over rolls.

### Stuffing For Cabbage Rolls

1 1/2 cups bread crumbs  
1 medium onion, chopped and browned in 2 tbsps. bacon-fat  
3 cups ground cooked (left-over) lamb or beef or pork  
1 beaten egg  
Mix thoroughly before shaping into rolls.

### Creole Pork Casserole

1 lb. ground raw pork  
2 onions  
2 tbsps. lard  
1 cup cooked macaroni  
1 cup tomatoes  
1 cup grated cheese  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 cup bread crumbs

Chop onions fine and cook with pork in skillet, with fat, until brown. Drain off excess fat, add macaroni, tomatoes, cheese and salt. Turn into baking dish, cover with crumbs, bake 45 minutes in 375° F. oven.

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### PORK CHOPS SUPREME

1 1/2 lbs. pork chops (4)  
1-2 tbsps. finely minced onion  
3 tbsps. all-purpose flour  
1 tsp. salt  
1/8 tsp. pepper  
1/2 tsp. thick meat sauce  
e.g. H.P. Sauce  
1 1/2 cups boiling water  
1 cup applesauce  
1 tsp. lemon juice or vinegar

Brown pork chops on both sides in well-heated frying pan, without fat. Arrange chops in shallow baking dish, (10" x 6" x 2"). Cook minced onion in pork fat until tender. Add flour, salt, pepper and meat sauce. Blend well. Add water and cook, stirring constantly until mixture thickens. Add applesauce and lemon juice or vinegar — mix thoroughly. Pour mixture over pork chops and bake at 350° F. for 1 1/2 hours or until tender. 4 Servings.

### POTATO PUFF PUDDING

2 cups mashed potatoes  
4 egg yolks  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 tablespoons blanched slivered almonds  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
4 egg whites

Press potatoes through a sieve. Beat egg yolks with sugar and salt until very light and add to potatoes. Add almonds and vanilla. Fold into stiffly beaten egg whites. Pour into a greased pudding dish and bake 50 minutes in a moderately slow oven, 325° F. Serve hot with pudding sauce. Yield: Six to eight servings.

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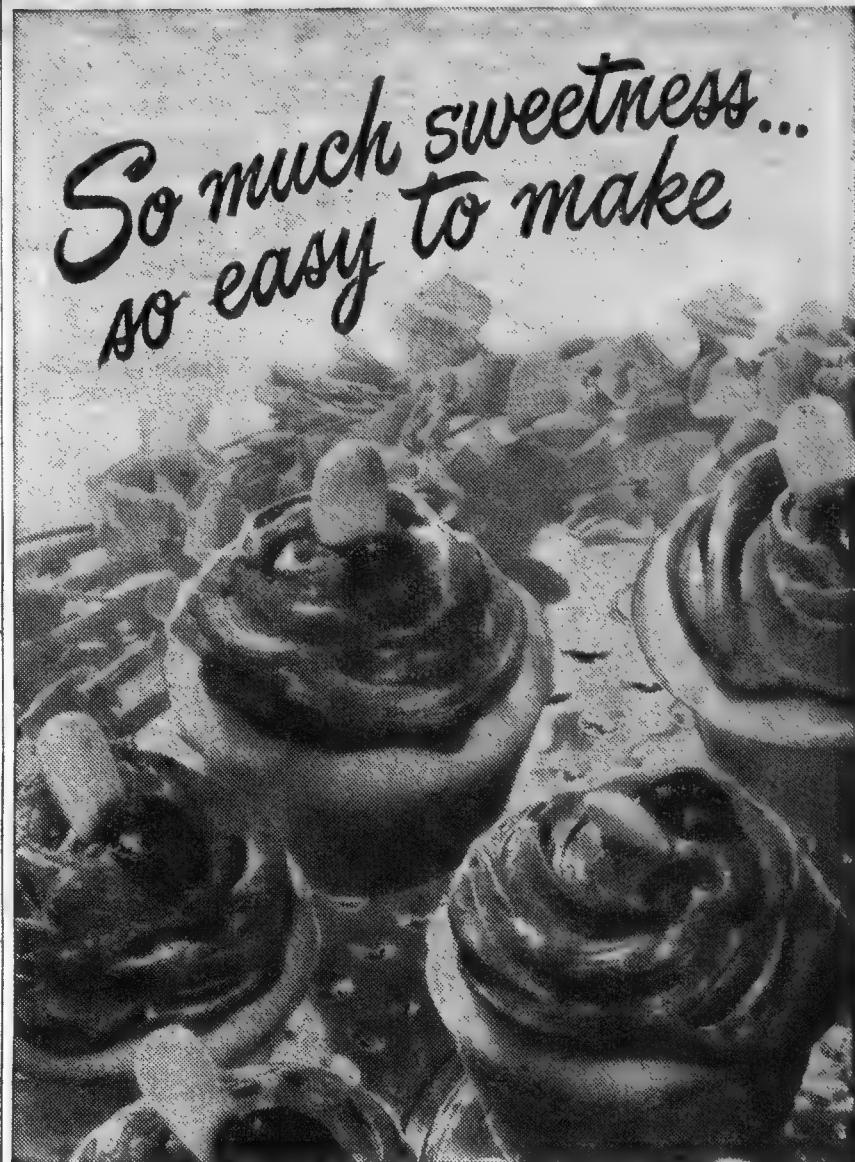
Cook apples for sauce in a saucepan with tightly fitting cover and cook quickly to avoid loss of color and flavor.

\* \* \*

Use spices sparingly with apples to bring out the natural flavor, not to disguise it.

\* \* \*

A little salt often improves the flavor and sweetness of cooked apples.



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**MAGIC CHOCOLATE CUP CAKES**

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour	2 eggs
2 teaspoons Magic Baking Powder	3/4 cup milk
1 teaspoon salt	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/2 cup shortening	Chocolate Frosting
1 cup sugar	10-12 halved maraschino cherries

10-12 almond nut meats

Sift dry ingredients together. Cream together shortening and sugar; mix well. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Add milk and flour alternately to creamed mixture. Add vanilla extract. Bake in greased cup cake pans in 375° F. oven, 20 minutes. Cool, top cakes with frosting. Garnish with cherries and nut meats. Makes 10-12.

**CHOCOLATE FROSTING**

1 unbeaten egg white	3 tablespoons cold water
1/2 cup granulated sugar	1/2 teaspoon flavoring
1/2 teaspoon Magic Baking Powder	1 1/2 squares unsweetened chocolate

Place all ingredients except unsweetened chocolate, flavoring and baking powder in top of double boiler. Place over boiling water and beat with beater for 5 minutes, add melted unsweetened chocolate and beat for 2 minutes. Remove from heat, add flavoring and baking powder, beat again, and spread on cake.

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# Canada Mak

## A. E. Arscott, President, The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Says Production Facilities Improved Beyond Most Optimistic Estimates Stresses Importance of Agriculture

### James Stewart, General Manager, Reviews Satisfactory Progress of Bank

**At the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, held in the Head Office of the Bank in the City of Toronto, December 14th, Mr. Allan E. Arscott, C.B.E., President, and Mr. James Stewart, C.B.E., General Manager, presented the Annual Statement of the Bank's operations in the past year, together with a review of business conditions. Mr. Arscott's address to the meeting follows, in part:**

When we consider the size of Canada we can say that the country as a unit is in a relatively prosperous condition.

A year ago those engaged in agriculture faced difficulties, largely the result of poor crops over most of the farm and ranch areas. The crops this year, on the contrary, have been for the most part of high yield, exceptions being in limited areas in the West and the orchards of Nova Scotia and in parts of the Fraser Valley of British Columbia. The improved crop situation is best indicated by the fact that grain yields in 1948 are about two hundred million bushels greater than in the preceding year, the increase being divided between the Prairie Provinces and Eastern and Central Canada. This should mean that there will be larger food supplies in this country as more grain is converted into dairy, poultry and meat products and that our exportable surpluses can be greater.

In the coming months it may be necessary for us to reconsider our position in world wheat markets. The world wheat agreements were not ratified within the designated time limits, so that Canada, if new agreements are not made, is left in the main to her own resources to search for markets where the purchasers have the ability to provide satisfactory payment. There have been hopeful signs in recent weeks that proposals again will be placed before the governments concerned. Out of the discussions there may emerge a programme for orderly international marketing and distribution of food supplies.

Industrial production continues to increase although the rate of increase in some industries has been more or less irregular during the past year. In part this is due to the fact that the flow of materials from the United States had to be curtailed to conform more closely to our reserves of American dollars, and in part because of shortages in some materials, both in Canada and elsewhere.

#### FORESTRY

In forestry, production of lumber, wood pulp and paper again established new records, although some of the Eastern lumbering districts have been less active than for some years past. Over all, Canada will have cut in 1948 about five thousand million feet board measure of lumber and made over seven million tons of pulp and paper. The output of newsprint this year is four times greater than that of any other country and accounts for over half the world's supply of this essential commodity. Impressive as these figures are they do not represent all the progress in forestry operations because of continuing technical changes designed to increase the supply of wood materials of all kinds, notably pulp, and also to improve the quality of forest products.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

A noticeable important change in direction of our export trade centered in the American market which took more Canadian goods and materials of all major classifications than in 1947. The value of such exports exceeded \$1,200 million, close to the war-time peak when the United States was importing military supplies in large quantities. When all Canadian exports are taken into account the total amount is above that of the preceding year, over \$2,700 million in value, but perhaps somewhat smaller in volume.

With respect to our trade with other countries, our exports to the British group declined by more than one hundred million dollars from 1947, as the result of smaller shipments to the United Kingdom, and substantial reductions in those to other markets in this group, particularly Australasia. There was also a marked falling-off in exports to Continental Europe.

European countries are now obtaining goods from Canada through allocations made under the European Recovery Programme whereby purchases are permitted to be made in Canada and payment arranged for in U.S. dollars. Also having a bearing on Canada's trade, it has already been indicated that the balance remaining of the United Kingdom credit from Canada, namely, \$235 millions, is likely to be "unfrozen" over the following months. The above arrangements should continue to stimulate temporarily at least the overseas demand for Canadian products.

#### DEFENCE PROGRAMME

With regard to defence measures now being considered and those in hand, the query arises as to what the effects will mean in terms of our economic activity. At the moment our posi-

tion is not clear but it seems obvious that some resources will need to be withheld from domestic consumption. A military programme at the present is very different from other periods of defence preparation in this country. At other times, war for Canada, in the earlier stages at least, took up the slack in our economy and encouraged the expansion of production. To-day with high employment, preparedness comes as a competitor not as a supplement to the productive machine and this fact will require consideration in making plans for next year.

It is evident that to-day we have conditions in our economy which vary greatly from those that we have had in the past. In effect we are endeavoring to travel along the paths of peace, reconstruction and defence preparation simultaneously, each of which would in itself have a direct bearing on industrial decisions.

Domestically our economy has never been so flourishing. This is not to say an ideal situation has been achieved but it can be stated that our facilities for production have improved to an extent beyond even the most optimistic estimates of the last two years.

There have been incidents in the international sphere which have given, and are still giving cause for considerable concern. Statesmen not only from this continent but from abroad who have been close to international problems have warned us repeatedly of disturbances that might affect various European countries and which in turn could involve all the countries of the civilized world. We can only hope that the deliberations and patient efforts of those charged with the task of working out a peaceful solution will be successful in convincing potentially belligerent nations of the wisdom of foregoing any actions which might lead to an actual war. The cloud, however, is hanging over us and is affecting our thoughts no matter how prosperous the country appears to be in a general way. It would seem, therefore, that the pattern of the year ahead is likely to be determined more by international than by purely domestic economic considerations.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S ADDRESS

The assets of the Bank have now reached a figure in excess of \$1,500 million, an increase for the year of \$102 million. In referring to the progress made in this respect during the year, mention might be made that an apparent misunderstanding in some quarters exists that such an expansion in the Bank's business reflects a larger proprietary interest of the shareholders; in other words, that the assets

generally belong to the shareholders. This, of course, is incorrect, since the assets of the Bank, apart from the shareholders' equity, are the offsetting counterpart of the Bank's liabilities, which are represented largely by the deposits of its customers.

#### DEPOSITS

Aggregate deposits during the year increased by \$93 million, of which \$9 million was in non-interest bearing accounts, \$50 million in Savings, and \$34 million in Dominion Government Balances, the latter reflecting to some extent the proceeds of the sale of Dominion of Canada Savings Bonds. The non-interest bearing accounts, made up mostly of business accounts, fluctuate within quite a wide range. The Savings Accounts for the most part are moneys belonging to individuals. This continued evidence of thrift on the part of the public must be viewed with satisfaction as the accounts are well spread among all classes and occupations. Our deposit customers now number in excess of one million five hundred thousand, which figure represents a gratifying increase over last year.

#### LOANS

Our Current Loans in Canada show an increase of \$30 million which is indicative of the active part this Bank is taking in the business of the country. While loans continue to show an upward trend, the rate of increase which was evident last year has slowed down. The figures this year signify a combination of two factors — first, the continuation of the increased tempo of business compared to war and pre-war days and, second, the higher level of prices. There has been evidence in recent months that the rate of increase in prices is slowing down and it is to be hoped that the levelling-off point is near at hand. The continuing upward trend of business has inherent in it some elements of uncertainty. Increased production is essential to the well-being of the country, particularly in those lines where supply has not yet caught up with demand. However, there seems to be a tendency by some to reach out for volume beyond the point where existing capital can reasonably support financial requirements. Expansion of this kind should be taken care of by obtaining additional capital, and working capital positions should be analyzed with this in mind.

In these confused times one could not predict in anything but general terms what the future holds. However, with the resources with which this country is blessed, we can, if we handle our affairs with prudence now, look to the future with confidence.